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PUBLIC HEARING _ VERBAL COMMENTARY

on the proposed

DIVINE STRAKE TESTING

24 January 2007
Utah State Capital
West Building _ Room 135

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Debra A. Dibble; C.S.R., R.P.R.

1 P R O C E E D I N G S.

2 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Ladies and gentlemen, I
3 want to thank you all for being here this evening, to
4 be able to provide public comment on the Divine Strake
5 proposal. And I want to thank Governor Huntsman for
6 his willingness to schedule these hearings, to provide
7 a very important opportunity to the public to make
8 comment.

9 This has to be part of a public comment
10 period, and we really respect and value your time in
11 coming tonight to be able to provide that additional
12 input.

13 We're going to start right with Governor
14 Huntsman's comments, and then I'll proceed through the
15 sign_up lists. And if there are elected officials at
16 the federal, state, or local level, we'll take them
17 first in the comments in this.

18 So, with that, Governor Huntsman.

19 GOVERNOR JON HUNTSMAN: Thank you.

20 I'm suffering from a bit of bronchitis, so
21 you're just going to have to hang with me for a little
22 bit here.

23 But I so appreciate the fact that you're
24 here. Your voices are going to be heard on something
25 that is critically important to our health and

1 well_being as a state. And the fact that you've taken
2 your time, and you're out here to express your point of
3 view is greatly appreciated by this Governor. So thank
4 you very much.

5 The purpose of the hearing is to provide the
6 public an opportunity to voice comments and concerns
7 about Divine Strake, and to that end, we thank you for
8 it.

9 Thank you for taking this opportunity to
10 speak out, to ensure you're heard.

11 I'm going to include the transcript from
12 tonight's hearing with my written comments.

13 I also would like to take this opportunity
14 to share some of my concerns about the proposed test.

15 Divine Strake is a 700_ton conventional
16 explosion, located over a tunnel within one mile of
17 radioactive contamination from past nuclear tests,
18 upwind of communities and people who know all too well
19 the suffering and death from open_air nuclear tests in
20 the same location.

21 This test is being evaluated under a cursory
22 Environmental Assessment, or an EA. It's the minimum
23 environmental review, which anticipates a finding of no
24 significant impact.

25 Now, to me, this doesn't make sense.

1 First, a test of this magnitude cannot be
2 evaluated by just an EA. An Environmental Assessment.
3 It requires a full Environmental Impact Statement.
4 Why? Because the information provided in an EA is not
5 sufficient to consider the impact of the explosion.

6 The proposed EA has failed to fully explain
7 or evaluate technical and environmental impacts.

8 For example. PM 2.5 concentrations, very
9 fine particles that could contain radioactive isotopes
10 and pose a threat to an individual's health, are not
11 even included in this evaluation.

12 Information necessary to understand the size
13 and composition and movement of the explosion's plume
14 is not provided, and modeling conducted for the EA does
15 not reflect conditions during the test, nor does it
16 extend into Utah in order to assure that the Federal
17 Government's claim of no impact is valid.

18 Second. There is no assurance that this
19 test will not lead to a resumption of testing at the
20 Nevada test site.

21 Any information to be derived from this
22 test, or any further test, will not compensate for the
23 loss of tourism, decline in real estate values, or,
24 importantly, impacts to the health and welfare of the
25 people, of particularly southern Utah, that would

1 occur.

2 Third, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency
3 has not justified the need for this test, or discussed
4 alternatives to it instead of Divine Strake. The
5 extensive database of earth_penetrating tests, current
6 modeling capabilities, and the ability to transfer data
7 from one situation, such as a blast or an earthquake,
8 could be used to evaluate the bunker_busting
9 capabilities of conventional weapons.

10 Finally, there is an impact that I doubt
11 even an EIS can sustain. An impact that should __ that
12 we should not accept under any circumstances.

13 People have died because of nuclear tests at
14 the Nevada test site, and those in southern Utah, who
15 have lived, and who have survived, are more vulnerable
16 because of the testing. Immune systems, for example,
17 that are compromised. There has been significant
18 impact to their health and well_being. An impact that
19 is not acknowledged or resolved. And the people who
20 have survived should not have to fear that the
21 unexpected or unexplained will happen again.

22 My strong submission is that we do not test
23 Divine Strake.

24 Thank you very much.

25 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you very much,

1 Governor.

2 I'd like to take this opportunity to ask if
3 there are any other elected officials in the audience
4 who wanted to speak.

5 If you'd come to either the podium or the
6 microphone, and identify yourself for the record, I'd
7 appreciate it.

8 MR. DARREN STOWELL: I'm Darren Stowell,
9 recently elected to the Senate. I live in Parowan,
10 Utah.

11 Parowan is directly upwind from the test
12 sites. There were a large number of cases of leukemia
13 after the open_air testing.

14 I just tell you this little story. Our
15 family's always raised a large garden. We thought we
16 were eating right. Then someone mentioned that the
17 fallout from those test is still around in the soil
18 there. So perhaps, you know, the vegetables that we're
19 eating out of the garden, that we think are so healthy,
20 are not as healthy as we think.

21 So we definitely need to revisit the EIS,
22 and do some work on it.

23 Thank you.

24 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Are there any other __
25 yes.

1 MS. NANCY SAXTON: Generally, as an elected
2 official __

3 I'm Nancy Saxton, from the Salt Lake City
4 Council.

5 Generally we would deal with reason, and
6 laws, and what makes sense for everyone. And it seems
7 to me that with this test, that it is so unbelievably
8 out of reason that it's really hard to even address it
9 based on the facts that I think the Governor did so
10 well, but as __ as an elected official that represents
11 180,000 people in Salt Lake City, that have loved ones
12 that travel to the southern part, that have been
13 interested and active in not only the antinuclear
14 efforts over the years __ and I think we've made great
15 headway that way __ this is really a step back. And it
16 seems like it's knee_jerk reaction, to __ for whatever
17 reason, that the administration is doing it, that I
18 would speak against it as well.

19 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Are there any other
20 elected officials?

21 MR. ROCKY ANDERSON: Appreciate the
22 opportunity, and, Governor, thank you so much for
23 providing the public with what the Federal Government
24 has not provided, and that is an opportunity to
25 actually be heard on this issue that is of such huge

1 significance to all of the people of this state.

2 The history of Utah, and the American West,
3 during the 20th Century is, in significant part,
4 dominated by the lies, stupidity, and wanton disregard
5 for public health at the heart of the U.S. nuclear
6 program.

7 As we consider the Divine Strake test
8 tonight, we remember the thousands of Utahns in our
9 state who have become casualties of dishonest,
10 senseless, destructive Federal nuclear policy.

11 As they deliberate about this latest test,
12 elected officials are obliged to listen to the voices
13 of Utah's downwinders.

14 I'd like to point out, before I go any
15 further, the graphic on the front page, the cover
16 sheet. It's a drawing of a cowboy on a horse with a
17 mushroom cloud in the background. That's taken from
18 the AEC booklet atomic tests in Nevada dated 1957, with
19 the words underneath that graphic, There Is No Danger.

20 That's what was represented by our Federal
21 Government, taken straight out of the AEC's pamphlet.

22 The United States Government has detonated
23 nearly 930 nuclear devices at the nuclear test site;
24 100 of them above ground. Told the people of Utah, and
25 the nation, that we were safe.

1 Today, the Centers for Disease Control
2 estimates that American deaths from external exposure
3 to fallout will reach 11,000 with 22,000 total cancer
4 cases from external exposure, and 49,000 thyroid cancer
5 cases from internal exposure to Iodine 131.

6 Defense department beaurocrats,
7 congressional representatives, and members of the Bush
8 administration may view Utah and Nevada as a, quote,
9 damn good place to dump used razor blades, as a
10 military magazine once described this part of the West,
11 but the people of Salt Lake City will not stand for
12 that derogation of our region, or for the view that
13 Utahns and Nevadans should be the nation's nuclear
14 guinea pigs once again.

15 Unlike many of the Bush administration, we
16 understand the incredible risks the Divine Strake and
17 similar weapons pose. We will not allow another public
18 health catastrophe caused by the Federal Government to
19 devastate the lives of our good, hard_working citizens.

20 The proposed Divine Strake blast threatens
21 the public health of citizens in Salt Lake City and the
22 state of Utah. The blast may well kick up toxic
23 radioactive material from hundreds of previous nuclear
24 tests, in a mushroom cloud at least 10,000 feet high,
25 that will spread throughout the western United States.

1 According to Department of Energy's own
2 Environmental Assessment report, the proposed area of
3 the test, and I quote, was subject to fallout from
4 global and NTS nuclear tests, and resuspension of this
5 fallout could travel beyond the NTS boundary, where it
6 might contribute to the radiological dose to the
7 public.

8 This admission came only after the DOE
9 absurdly claimed, in its initial Environmental
10 Assessment released last May, that radioactively
11 contaminated soils are not present within the vicinity
12 of the proposed Divine Strake detonation, and that the
13 tests would not result in the suspension or dispersion
14 of radioactive materials, or human exposure to
15 radioactive materials.

16 I have some more information, but I won't go
17 on. I know I've gone over my time.

18 But about the exposure to carcinogens from
19 this test, and the dangers that that will pose as well.

20 Allowing the Divine Strake explosion will
21 open the door to renewed nuclear weapons testing, once
22 again putting Utahns at risk for exposure to
23 radioactive dust and other toxic fallout materials.

24 According to the Defense Department's 2006
25 budget request, Divine Strake test is intended to

1 simulate a low_yield nuclear weapon ground shock
2 environment at tje Department of Energy's Nevada test
3 site. Commencing a new nuclear program at a time when
4 the United States is condemning Iran and North Korea
5 for their nuclear programs, would make our efforts to
6 stem proliferation appear false and hypocritical, and
7 would further endanger the public health.

8 Lastly, the United Nations Committee for the
9 Elimination of Racial Discrimination condemned the
10 United States in April 2006 for violating the rights of
11 the western Shoshone tribe by planning and conducting
12 destructive activities on areas of spiritual and
13 cultural significance to the western Shoshone peoples.

14 The Committee urged the United States to
15 desist from all activities, planned and/or conducted on
16 the ancestral lands of western Shoshone, or in relation
17 to their natural resources which are being carried out
18 without consultation with and despite protests of the
19 western Shoshone peoples.

20 The Divine Strake test is slated to take
21 place on land guaranteed to the western Shoshone tribe
22 under the 1863 treaty of Ruby Valley, and has been
23 planned despite the vigorous opposition from the
24 western Shoshone.

25 Therefore, the Federal administration is

1 defying the international community in proceeding with
2 the Divine Strake tests. The United States
3 government's shameful treatment of the indigenous
4 people of this country should not be perpetuated by
5 destroying ancestral Shoshone land in violation of the
6 international convention and all forms of racial
7 discrimination.

8 We vigorously oppose all weapons testing
9 that is projected to negatively impact the natural
10 environment and the public health.

11 We will not allow the Federal Government to
12 put our lives and our future at risk, or to renege on
13 its stated obligations to our nation's indigenous
14 people. If we are to effectively oppose global nuclear
15 proliferation, and avoid another disastrous arms race,
16 we cannot commence new nuclear programs.

17 Together, we can stop Divine Strake, take
18 responsibility for the health of our environment, and
19 ensure the safety of our citizens for generations to
20 come.

21 Thank you very much for this opportunity.

22 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Are there any other
23 elected officials who would like to speak at this time?

24 Yes, sir.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Could we get the

1 Governor to tell us why he thinks this forum and this
2 letter is going to make any difference? Could you
3 address that with us?

4 GOVERNOR JON HUNTSMAN: Because nothing
5 stops the power of the people, my friend.

6 We come together as a state __ (inaudible).

7 Just imagine a world in which we didn't have
8 the willingness to gather like we have now, to speak
9 out.

10 The media are here. People who want to
11 argue their cases are here. We as citizens who have
12 concerns going back generations are here. We're
13 speaking out. We have access to people in Washington.
14 We have elected representatives in Washington. This is
15 exactly what our state ought to be doing, and we'll
16 have an impact.

17 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: At this time I'd like
18 to proceed with the list of individuals who have
19 indicated they'd like to speak.

20 If you'd come to the microphone, say your
21 name so we get it clearly on the tape.

22 And the first of those individuals is Zell
23 McGee.

24 MR. ZELL MCGEE: My name is Zell McGee,
25 Z_E_L_L, M_C capital G_E_E.

1 I am a member of Physicians for Social
2 Responsibility, and HEAL Utah, and am here both __ for
3 the purposes of those organizations in mind.

4 I apologize, I am going to have to skip
5 around, what I thought was a linear presentation, to
6 get within the two minutes. I'll do my best.

7 First of all, the Pentagon has said that
8 there's nothing dangerous at the Nevada test site.
9 They may be thinking about I_131, which is radioactive
10 iodine, which has a half_life of eight days, and
11 probably is decayed and not of much danger now. True
12 enough.

13 However, another ingredient of mushroom
14 clouds is Neptunium 237, which has a half_life of
15 2,140,000 years, and is likely still active. And we
16 need to know about the __ or at least my concern is
17 about the biology of that particular radioisotope,
18 which the nuclear folk I have consulted are rather sure
19 is out there, namely, in __

20 In experimental animals who were forced to
21 breathe Neptunium 237, a high rate of lung cancer
22 developed.

23 In the animals that ate __ were forced to
24 eat Neptunium 237, the isotope was concentrated in the
25 bone, and bone cancers resulted.

1 Now, if Divine Strake was __ is allowed to
2 proceed, when Neptunian 237 reaches Utah it will be
3 most readily incorporated into the bones of growing
4 children, where it may cause bone cancer, perhaps
5 necessitating amputation of affected limbs.

6 Similar bone-seeking radioisotopes have
7 caused leukemia in children. It's corporate child
8 abuse.

9 I would like to slightly do a brain shift on
10 perspective, Governor Huntsman.

11 It's true that there have been lots of cases
12 of cancer in southern Utah. The distribution of what
13 we can expect from Divine Strake is a little different
14 from that, if you look at the distribution of
15 radioactive iodine from previous nuclear tests, in
16 breast milk. So not only where is it, but it got into
17 our bodies.

18 I have looked at the accumulation of
19 radioactive iodine in breast milk, as reported from the
20 National Cancer Institute. It was elevated after
21 previous tests in Utah County, Salt Lake County, Davis
22 County, and all of the Wasatch Front, and over into
23 Grand County, where Moab is located. It is a total
24 Utah distribution. And I think we shouldn't take any
25 comfort in not being in southern Utah.

1 All Utahns will be at risk of this
2 cancer_causing sort of compound. And when it becomes
3 known that dangerous carcinogens, cancer_causing
4 chemicals have been deposited on the Wasatch and Utah
5 mountains, there goes the ski industry. This factor
6 was not considered in the Pentagon's environmental
7 impact statement, which considered economic impacts
8 only in the vicinity of the proposed action.

9 You picked up on that very sharply. Thank
10 you.

11 By the way, when that
12 radioactively_contaminated snow melts next spring, it
13 will become our radioactively_contaminated drinking
14 water.

15 The buzz within the convention trade will be
16 Salt Lake City is a nice place to visit, just don't
17 drink the water, or eat any food that was prepared with
18 it.

19 I would strongly urge, Governor Huntsman, to
20 follow the advice of Nancy Reagan, and Simply Say No.

21 Specifically, I will urge you to ask the
22 attorney general to get an injunction to stop Divine
23 Strake, and other nuclear tests at the Nevada test
24 site. It is of interest to the citizens of Utah, and
25 other downwind states, and will help us be a more

1 humane country.

2 Governor Huntsman, I thank you for giving
3 citizens the opportunity to address the dangers of
4 Divine Strake. I hope you will use and invoke all of
5 the powers of your office to intervene in this
6 egregious threat to our families and our economy.

7 Thank you.

8 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Next I'd like to invite
9 Stewart Thorpe, and he'll be followed by Ed Braak.

10 MR. THORPE: Okay. I'm going to try and cut
11 down my comments.

12 Well, first, we have had the announcement of
13 a public meeting for Divine Strake delayed past
14 mid_December. Then they turned the public meeting
15 into a so_called public information session. And then
16 we also had a government lawyer saying they cannot
17 promise to give 60 days notice to the public, after
18 February 1st, before they carry out Divine Strake.

19 The really easy impression that I am getting
20 from the Pentagon is that they want as little public
21 input and as little public response as possible. They
22 are trying to rush it through.

23 And considering that, as everybody else has
24 talked before, the health risks, this is not something
25 you can rush through.

1 And I really think it's a conflict of
2 interest for the Pentagon to do an Environmental
3 Assessment or any study for a test that they want to
4 conduct. They have their own interests involved. They
5 don't have our interests involved obviously.

6 And this is not a small matter. There's
7 lives at stake.

8 And, as many people have commented, this is
9 a precursor to a nuclear weapon program, and that is
10 something not acceptable, because that means there's
11 more tests. Even if it's not in Nevada, someone will
12 suffer for it.

13 Thank you.

14 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Ed Braak, followed by
15 Randall Edwards.

16 MR. ED BRAAK: Thank you, Governor Huntsman,
17 for giving us a chance to express our real feelings
18 about the nuclear arm strikes. I hope I don't get too
19 emotional about this.

20 My wife Barbara and I are opposed to all
21 nuclear weapons R and D. In 2003 and '05, our
22 legislators approved resumption of nuclear weapon R and
23 D. Divine Strake is obviously R and D for nuclear
24 weapons.

25 It is absolutely hypocritical of the United

1 States to build more nuclear weapons, and to tell
2 others not to.

3 Many nations are trying to make nuclear
4 weapons because they fear our continuing policy of
5 domination, and nuclear superiority, and preemptive
6 war.

7 We are causing the worldwide nuclear arms
8 race by our policies.

9 (Audience clapping.)

10 Death by nuclear radiation, whether from
11 testing fallout or inevitable worldwide war, is
12 horrible.

13 The film Hell Fire, A Journey From
14 Hiroshima, should be viewed __ required viewing for all
15 legislatures and churchmen. Unless they are made of
16 stone, they would become committed to eliminating all
17 nuclear weapons.

18 To calm the fears of the world, and reduce
19 this threat, we believe that the United States must
20 sign, ratifying, and actively promote the nuclear
21 non_proliferation treaty by policy, example, and
22 worldwide destruction of all nuclear weapons.

23 Congress must repeal its approval to __ for
24 renewed nuclear R and D, and remove all Doctor
25 Strangeloves.

1 Please, all influential parties, show love
2 for yourselves, your grandchildren, and all peoples of
3 the world, and stop this nuclear cycle of violence.

4 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

5 Randall Edwards, followed by Catherine
6 Kreuter.

7 MR. RANDALL EDWARDS: My name is Randall
8 Edwards, E_D_W_A_R_D_S. I'm here in two capacities.
9 First, I'm a lawyer. I represent the western Shoshone
10 Nation, the Winnemucca Indian Tribe, and several others
11 in Nevada.

12 I'm licensed in Utah, Nevada, California,
13 and Arizona. My office is here in Salt Lake City.

14 I appreciate the opportunity to address you,
15 and thank you for the opportunity to be heard.

16 I've cut my remarks down, and I will submit
17 some written remarks as well, in the time that has been
18 given.

19 There are a few things that I wanted to
20 point out though.

21 One of them is that, in the original
22 Environmental Assessment, there was a deeply flawed
23 problem in that there were no soil core samples that
24 were done. The scientific evidence that was produced
25 in court, as part of our lawsuit, indicated that those

1 core samples needed to be done in order to determine
2 whether plutonium indeed existed in the ground soil.

3 When those core samples were taken,
4 amazingly enough, despite the fact that our Department
5 of Defense had said There's nothing there, there's
6 nothing to worry about, plutonium was found. And not
7 only found, but it was also indicated that it would
8 become part of the atmosphere if it were released as
9 part of the Divine Strake explosion.

10 Amazingly enough, the Department of Defense
11 then put things off.

12 They put it off again when there was more
13 scientific evidence. They're now in the third time.
14 Well, fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame
15 on me. Fool me three times __ how many times do we
16 need to get fooled?

17 In this case we can't get fooled again.

18 Boy, it sounds like a Who song, doesn't it?

19 I wanted to point out a couple of things.

20 First of all, the computer model that the
21 Department of Defense and the other agencies, which are
22 the Defense Threat Reduction Agency and the Nuclear
23 Safety Administration, the computer model that they
24 have been using is based on a 1970s computer model that
25 shows that 100 percent of the dust that goes into the

1 air, all will fall back to the earth, will not go
2 anywhere else, within an 80 kilometer spectrum. Well,
3 if that were the case, would my parents, would my
4 grandparents have been downwinders? Would they have
5 cancer today?

6 I grew up in Richfield, Utah. Sevier
7 County. My family actually took the family out so we
8 could watch one of the bombs blow up.

9 My grandparents, who both died of cancer, my
10 mother, who has survived breast cancer, were all
11 ticking timebombs from that time on.

12 I wonder if I'm a ticking timebomb.

13 From the legal standpoint, let me speak just
14 a little bit more, and then let me talk just
15 personally.

16 I received, today, a report from Richard
17 Miller, which I will submit. He's one of five
18 world_renowned scientists who have come forward in our
19 case. He talks a lot about some of the issues that
20 have arisen, one of which the Governor mentioned, and
21 that is the failure to assess those particles that are
22 2.5 micrometers in size and below. He indicates that
23 they are, number one, very small. They are very
24 dangerous. Because they are so small, they become
25 lodged in the lungs, they can't be coughed out, and

1 they will cause cancer.

2 They are of especial danger to children, who
3 have their lungs still __

4 You know, they bring in more air, the lung
5 are still being developed, and yet once they have this
6 in their system, they can't get rid of it. They truly
7 are ticking timebombs.

8 Now, let me just explain to you one thing.

9 Let me tell you what I'm not. I'm not a nuclear
10 activist, I'm not a member of the Sierra club, I'm not
11 a member of the SUWM. I'm not really an
12 environmentalist, for that matter.

13 What I am, however, is simply a concerned
14 citizen, who grew up in southern Utah, who waits every
15 day to see, Is today the day that I discover that tumor
16 that was inflicted on me because of tests that I had no
17 control over as a child?

18 I don't want that to happen to my children.
19 I don't want it to happen to my clients. Please, this
20 has to stop. And it has to stop now.

21 Thank you very much for your help.

22 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

23 Catherine Kreuter followed by Ed Firmage.

24 MS. CATHERINE KREUTER: Thank you.

25 (Speakers holds up sign that says, "Need a D

1 word? How about diabolic, or dammed, or demonic?")

2 (Audience applause.)

3 I have to admit, this expresses my anger.

4 But I really didn't come here to speak angrily.

5 Semantics, although I don't __ I really
6 object to the use of the word divine, semantics __ my
7 objection to Divine Strake goes a great deal deeper
8 than semantics.

9 I'm a member of the Ghandi Alliance for
10 Peace board here in Salt Lake City. I'm a long_time
11 resident of Salt Lake.

12 I'm a member of St. Ambrose Parrish. I'm
13 not representing either of those bodies. I'm really
14 representing my grandchildren.

15 And I think I probably should have been born
16 Quaker. A Quaker, nice Quaker family would have been
17 just right for me, because all of my life I've been
18 shocked by and made to feel helpless by a parade of
19 weapons that never seem to stop.

20 I remember I was born in the year that
21 world __ that we entered World War II. And I remember
22 when I learned, eventually, about atomic bombs, and
23 what they could do, and what they did. I was just
24 plainly horrified. I didn't think human beings did
25 those things to each other.

1 Then, the parade went on, and there was
2 napalm, and there was Agent Orange, and there was the
3 effort to get the MX missile system here in our desert,
4 And now there's Divine Strake.

5 And there were a lot of other things along
6 the line. There were AK47s.

7 And what I learned is this country, that I
8 love so very deeply, manufacturers and makes a lot of
9 money selling weapons to the world.

10 And what I really want, what I'm really here
11 for, is a WWW. I'm so anxious for the world to define
12 WWW as world without war, or world without weapons.
13 And that's what I pray for every day, and I suppose
14 I'll die praying for it.

15 It's a helpless feeling not to be a powerful
16 person, and to sense that things are really wrong.

17 So that's where my anger about dissing
18 divine came from. Because I just lean on that prayer
19 life to help me cope, that it's so crazy out there.

20 Thank you.

21 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Ed Firmage, followed by
22 Eileen McCabe.

23 MR. ED FIRMAGE: If you were to awake
24 tomorrow with no previous knowledge of the event, to
25 learn that someone had detonated 700_tons of ammonium

1 nitrate and fuel oil directly under an area of the West
2 where tons of radioactive debris still scars the ground
3 from 928 previous nuclear tests, throwing radioactive
4 debris in the atmosphere and a 10,000_foot mushroom
5 cloud, you would assume that we have been struck by
6 terrorists. You would be right.

7 The radioactive debris above this huge
8 detonation in our own heartland will contaminate our
9 air, our water, our land, and our food. Who but an
10 enemy would do this? If this benighted administration
11 insists on committing an act of war upon the West, then
12 at least Mr. Bush should ask Congress to declare war on
13 us, thus given us fair warning of his intent.

14 This self_destructive explosion is designed
15 to produce another generation of nuclear weapons. How
16 can we do this when we already possess more nuclear
17 weapons than all other nations combined? And at the
18 same time demand that North Korea and Iran halt their
19 nuclear program? Just how effective can be the town
20 drunk in calling upon his community to go on_the_wagon?
21 And in the process of testing further weapons, we
22 radiate our downwind community, from St. George, to
23 Salt Lake, all the way east. Thousands of miles.

24 We should be using the bully pulpit of
25 government to rid ourselves, and other nuclear weapons

1 states, from the weapons we have, and not to build even
2 more rubble bouncers. Instead, we encourage other
3 nations to test and deploy nuclear weapons by our own
4 example.

5 After the military tests these weapons,
6 we're faced, in the West, of attempts of our own
7 government, to deploy such weapons in our back yards.
8 And then when these monster nuclear weapons are finally
9 decommissioned, the government wants to bury their
10 radioactive core right here in the West, so
11 EnergySolutions, (Envirocare, by whatever name), can
12 continue to make a million dollars a day for
13 contaminating, once again, our land, our water, our
14 air, and our food supply.

15 Test, contaminate, deploy, decommission,
16 bury, and contaminate once again. One eternal round,
17 for the half_life of radioactive weapons goes on
18 forever.

19 In democratic government, we have the right
20 and the power to change our mind and change our
21 direction. We must stop our march toward the spread of
22 nuclear weapons. Every weapons system ever developed
23 has eventually been used. Let us stop this degradation
24 of our environment, and at the same time we stop this
25 relentless progression of nuclear weapons.

1 If we reverse our course on nuclear weapons,
2 we have the power of example and the integrity to
3 encourage other states not to develop such weaponry.
4 We are encouraged to denounce war and proclaim peace.
5 The defeat of Divine Strake is a good place to begin.

6 Thank you.

7 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

8 Eileen McCabe, followed by Steve Erickson.

9 MS. EILEEN McCABE: I've tried to edit my
10 remarks down from five to two.

11 My name is Eileen McCabe. I'm a policy
12 advisor with the Blue Sky Institute and former
13 associate director of Shundahai Network.

14 I would like to thank Governor Huntsman and
15 Ms. Nielson for their roles in calling and organizing
16 this meeting, and getting Utahns a chance to speak
17 publically. These comments represent my own opinion
18 and not necessarily the opinions of any of the
19 organizations named.

20 In early April 2006, there was little in the
21 media about Divine Strake except for James Tengalia's
22 ill_considered remark about a mushroom cloud that could
23 be seen from Las Vegas. The western Shoshone defense
24 project and Shundahai Network put together a press
25 release about what we did know, focusing on three

1 points: The potential danger to those living downwind,
2 the potential for this test to be used to develop
3 special tactical nuclear weapons, and the continued
4 illegality of testing anything at the Nevada test site.

5 Then we joined with a handful of others to
6 form the Stop Divine Strake Coalition, and invited
7 other organizations.

8 Over the next six weeks, over four dozen
9 organizations joined the coalition, worldwide, around
10 these three points.

11 These included indigenous rights,
12 downwinders, antinuclear and peace and just __ social
13 justice groups. We were interviewed by Italian,
14 British, and Spanish media. Even Al Jazeera covered
15 this story.

16 We learned that this test is of concern not
17 just to those who live downwind, but to concerned
18 citizens worldwide.

19 I'm sure that the health and safety issues
20 will be well covered this evening, and Mayor Anderson
21 has covered, in admirable detail, my concerns about
22 Western Shoshone treaty issues and the Kurd decision,
23 so I'd like to focus on one other point.

24 There is wide agreement among weapons
25 experts, including the Federation of American

1 Scientists, that this test will be used to develop
2 metrics for the deployment of new tactical nuclear
3 weapons such as bunker busters. Indeed, the initial
4 budget stated that the intent of the test was to,
5 quote, Improve the war fighters' confidence in
6 selecting the smallest proper nuclear yield necessary
7 to destroy underground facilities while minimizing
8 collateral damage. End quote.

9 The Department of Energy's currently
10 considering proposals to revamp the nuclear arsenal
11 with a proposal called Complex 2030, which would revamp
12 the entire U.S. weapons complex, allowing for a new
13 generation of nuclear weapons.

14 By the terms of the non_proliferation
15 treaty, the U.S. and other nuclear weapons states, are
16 obligated to drawing down their arsenals toward
17 eventual abolition. Mohammed El Baradei, of the IAEA,
18 has recently restated that this is the essential goal
19 of the MPT.

20 What message is sent to the rest of the
21 world when the U.S., not only does not draw down its
22 nuclear force, but actively, with Complex 2030 and
23 suddenly with Divine Strake, moves forward with plans
24 to upgrade its nuclear capacity?

25 Already other nations are following suit.

1 Eight nations are testing ICBMs, two are upgrading
2 their nuclear submarine fleets, and currently
3 non_nuclear states, such as the Arab states, are
4 claiming their need for nuclear power.

5 In today's international tension, this test
6 is provocative and ill_advised.

7 (Audience clapping.)

8 In closing, I have two questions to ask
9 Utahns tonight; given our history and the numerous
10 victims of radiation poisoning, are you willing to see
11 thousands, even millions of innocent Iranian civilians
12 poisoned or killed if these weapons are developed and
13 deployed?

14 And do we respect the rule of law and expect
15 that our own country will honor its treaties and
16 obligations, including UN resolutions and directives,
17 arms reduction treaties, and treaties with native
18 peoples?

19 If you can answer yes to either of these
20 questions, I hope that you will consider sending in
21 written comments on these issues, to the White House,
22 to the Department of Defense, and to the Defense Threat
23 Reduction Agency, in addition to your concerns on the
24 Environmental Assessment at hand.

25 More information on these issues, as well as

1 decision_maker addresses may be found on the Shundahai
2 Network Web site, on the Divine Strake link, and there
3 are also flyers at the back table.

4 Thank you very much.

5 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

6 Steve Erickson, followed by Carol Withrow.

7 MR. STEVE ERICKSON: Hi. My name is Steve
8 Erickson. I'm with the Citizens Education Project.

9 I would like to thank the Governor and
10 Ms. Nielson for this opportunity, and also like to
11 thank fellow activists for helping to bring this case
12 before the people; and I'd like to thank my lawyer, for
13 bringing this case before the court.

14 We stand __

15 MR. EDWARDS: I didn't even know I was your
16 lawyer.

17 MR. ERICKSON: We actually just met. But
18 perhaps thank Bob Hager too.

19 You're going to hear plenty of concerns here
20 tonight from very heartfelt folks. I would simply like
21 to say that we stand today, at the portal of a new Cold
22 War.

23 I heard nothing in the president's address
24 last night, on the State of the State, addressing the
25 nuclear policies, nuclear weapons policies of this

1 country.

2 I don't believe I remember hearing that in
3 any one of his State of the State addresses over the
4 years that he has been in office.

5 We've brought this to where we can possibly
6 stop this test from happening, folks. But we will be
7 remiss if we do not engage the Nation in a discussion
8 of, Where are we going with our national nuclear
9 policy? We have watched, over the past number of
10 years, the Nation withdraw from the ABM treaty, stymie
11 the biological weapons convention, fail to sign __ fail
12 to ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, develop
13 the Star Wars protective system, but now we're
14 beginning the Complex 20. We are beginning pit
15 production again.

16 And one issue that has not received much
17 attention is that the British have now made the
18 decision to revamp their Trident in the next 15 years,
19 which will mean the testing of a new nuclear warhead
20 for the Trident system, which is also done in the state
21 of Nevada, under the Mutual Defense Agreement.

22 We need, as a people, to engage this country
23 in a broad and deep discussion of, Where are we going
24 with our national nuclear weapons policy? And if we
25 don't, then we are unfortunately going to see __ we're

1 going to reap the reward of a Divine Strake test
2 sometime in the future, and the territory upwind from
3 those we love.

4 Thank you.

5 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: We'd like to provide an
6 opportunity for President Valentine, President of the
7 Utah Senate, to speak.

8 PRESIDENT JOHN VALENTINE: Thank you very
9 much.

10 It's not very often that I sit at this table
11 and get a chance to speak. Usually what happens is
12 that people are asking me for information, and usually
13 speaking to me. So this is a great opportunity to have
14 a chance to sort of just give you, from my heart, the
15 things that I'm concerned about.

16 This is a legitimate concern, that we put
17 into the air shed, material that is still having a
18 half_life of nuclear radiation. This is something that
19 has concerned all of us, both the state policy_makers
20 and the residents of the state.

21 I have a very strong message of distrust.
22 We were asked to trust in the '40s, that we knew what
23 we were doing. And I'm convinced now that we may not
24 know what we're doing. And it's the reason why I'm
25 saying, this should not be done in this particular

1 location.

2 I know I speak for many of our senators,
3 that we have real strong concerns about the need to
4 have good solid science. But the thing that we are
5 concerned about is that we don't have the facts to be
6 able to know what the effects will be for the next
7 generation.

8 When I look at people in southern Utah, who
9 have suffered from cancer, even people that I have
10 known very, very well, who have either suffered from
11 cancer or died from cancer, because we didn't know the
12 answers in the '40s and '50s when those nuclear tests
13 were occurring. I have the same concern now.

14 So I wanted to express, on behalf of the
15 Senate, the concerns that we have to this proposal, and
16 have a chance to speak with you tonight. So thank you
17 very much.

18 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

19 Carol Withrow, followed by Ken Farnsworth.

20 MS. CAROL WITHROW: I am Carol Withrow, and
21 I'm representing myself. And I've written out my brief
22 comments for the transcriber, which I will submit.

23 If ever a detailed Environmental Impact
24 Statement were called for, this is it. An experiment
25 of the magnitude of the Divine Strake bombing is

1 frightening and unnecessary, and should, at the very
2 least, receive adequate study before declaring a
3 finding of no significant impact based on an
4 Environmental Assessment.

5 If its purpose is, as was earlier stated, to
6 simulate blasts of bunker_busting nuclear bombs, it is
7 in violation of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban
8 Treaty.

9 As it is, the Environmental Assessment is
10 superficial. For example, the discussion of effects on
11 threatened or endangered species is sketchy. It does
12 note that destruction of other animals and their
13 habitats will occur, but cavalierly dismisses this
14 destruction as insignificant.

15 I am reminded of the Utah sheep deaths in
16 the '50s, when our government denied responsibility and
17 promised that it would not happen again.

18 As admitted, in at least one version in this
19 EA, there is a possibility of the existing radioactive
20 soil being distributed and being blown about by an
21 unpredictable wind. I would say it's more of a
22 certainty than a possibility.

23 This toxic soil will certainly blow many
24 thousand feet in the air. This EA concludes that this
25 contaminated radioactive soil will be of such a low

1 level of radio activity, as to cause no health or
2 safety impacts beyond the blast site.

3 However, there is no safe level of ionizing
4 radiation. There are all the __ there are varying
5 levels of risk.

6 An old definition of strake is stretch. And
7 this is appropriate, for it is a stretch of public
8 credulity to say that this bomb is necessary or safe.

9 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Ken Farnsworth,
10 followed by Maureen Card.

11 MR. KEN FARNSWORTH: My name is Ken
12 Farnsworth, F_A_R_N_S_W_O_R_T_H.

13 And my wife, she lost her father in his late
14 '50s. She might be called a downwinder.

15 And when I first heard about the bomb, the
16 Divine Strake, I could not understand why anything
17 could be called divine. A bomb is something that kills
18 people, and divine is something religious and reverent.

19 And I just wonder if somebody like Carl Roe
20 wasn't the one that had __ figured out the name for
21 this.

22 And I just don't have the trust, after the
23 Iraq war, and the Pentagon __ the Pentagon, in this war
24 in Iraq, is they've made so many mistakes, and now
25 they're asking me to trust in this bomb.

1 And, as far as our congressional
2 representatives, the only one that I believe that
3 didn't __ that voted against this, was Congressman
4 Matheson. And the rest funded __ helped fund this
5 bomb.

6 And I just cannot believe that our
7 representatives would vote to fund something like this.
8 It's killed, in the past, hundreds of people in Utah.

9 And our concerns are, is we've got to put a
10 stop to it. And I just wonder about sometimes when I
11 turn my radio on, and I hear three hours of Rush
12 Limbaugh, or Shawn Hanady, and I can't ever hear
13 anything about what I'm really concerned and interested
14 in. And I wonder how our media is kind of dumbing us.

15 And I just wish there were more people here
16 to represent the fight against this bomb.

17 And these are, like I say, my feelings, and
18 the feelings of my family, and my children, and
19 grandchildren. And I just hope that I __

20 The Governor here is backing us. I feel
21 good about that. And the Honorable Mayor Rocky
22 Anderson, God bless him.

23 And I just hope that we can put a stop to
24 this, and our media will wake up, and start putting it
25 over the airwaves, the television, the radio, and the

1 newspapers, and kill it.

2 Thank you.

3 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

4 Maureen Card, followed by Darlene Phillips.

5 MS. MAUREEN CARD: I wasn't speaking. Thank
6 you.

7 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Oh. Okay. Thank you.

8 Darlene Phillips, followed by Eve Mary
9 Verde.

10 MS. DARLENE PHILLIPS: I'm afraid a lot of
11 what I am going to say is personal, but it speaks about
12 propaganda, and lies, that I experienced in the past,
13 and that I know are coming down the pike right now.

14 In 1996, I went to the Moran Center for a
15 routine cataract surgery. Most people would be
16 ecstatic. I knew that once those cataracts were
17 removed, I would lose all scientific proof that I had
18 been exposed to dangerous levels of radiation by
19 fallout.

20 I had been seen by doctors all the way from
21 Bountiful to the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda,
22 Maryland. They had all speculated about the fallout,
23 but only one doctor was willing to say to me, Have you
24 been in Japan? And I said, I've never been out of the
25 country. I've not been well enough. And he said, No,

1 you've been in Japan. You've just forgotten it.

2 And I thought, no, I think if I'd been in
3 Japan I would remember.

4 And so I asked him why he was so insistent.
5 And he said, You have a peculiar type of cataract,
6 which we see in only two kinds of people; survivors of
7 Hiroshima, and survivors of Nagasaki. And you have
8 those.

9 Do you live in southern Utah? And I said,
10 no. I live in northern Utah.

11 And that's the point I want to make, is that
12 my exposure, the biggest part of my exposure came in
13 northern Utah.

14 I remember the time when we received
15 newspaper and radio reports that the milk in Utah,
16 especially in northern Utah, coming from Cache Valley,
17 was contaminated with Iodine 131, and Strontium 90, and
18 a few other nice choice isotopes.

19 By that time, I had become a little bit
20 leery, and I cancelled the dairy. And I said to the
21 family, We're drinking powdered milk from now on.

22 What I didn't know, and I would not know
23 until I became a research patient at the National
24 Cancer Institute, was that the milk was not dumped, it
25 was made into powdered milk.

1 And so I have fed my family powdered milk.
2 And I was a big milk drinker, because I was a mother, a
3 nursing mother, and I was ___ made sure that I got the
4 correct amount of calcium.

5 Before any of us allow the Divine Strake to
6 spread all these isotopes up into the air again, where
7 they will blow along the Wasatch Front, into Kansas,
8 and all the way to Canada, we need to think about this,
9 And we need ___ I don't know what we need to do, stand
10 on Main Street and scream, because ___ I remember those
11 years when I told my children, You can't play in the
12 snow today, because there was a test two days ago. I
13 mean, I did know that much, because I had a friend with
14 a Geiger counter.

15 And I think the government is surprised that
16 they are not able to convince us now that Divine Strake
17 is safe, and necessary, and they're assuring us that it
18 does not open the door to another round of nuclear
19 testing. You know, nothing to worry about.

20 They would never think of putting us at risk
21 again. Well, those of us who lived downwind, and
22 upwind, and who have managed to survive a number of
23 cancers, are here to tell you that we have been lied to
24 by the experts.

25 We've seen all of the propaganda movies

1 about Duck and Cover, and wearing dark glasses before
2 you look at a nuclear test. And we've been scared
3 silent by fear. Fear of the Soviet Union, fear of Joe
4 McCarthy, fear of China, fear of the domino effect in
5 Vietnam. We're __ whatever __ but scared silent.

6 We've also drunk the poisoned milk, breathed
7 the poisoned air, and we've swallowed the lies, and
8 paid a price. And this time, speaking just for myself,
9 I will not be silent again.

10 (Audience clapping.)

11 Yesterday, my husband and I had the
12 privilege of going to the hospital __ I'm going to tear
13 up __ and holding our 16th great_grandchild.

14 This child has never been exposed to nuclear
15 fallout, nor have any of our other great_grandchildren,
16 nor have your young children. Let's keep it that way.
17 Let's put an end to it.

18 Okay, we sacrificed, and we swallowed the
19 lies, but let's not do __ go down this path again.

20 Thank you very much.

21 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Eve Marie Verde,
22 followed by Bob Welti.

23 MS. EVE MARY VERDE: My last name is V as in
24 victory, V_E_R_D_E.

25 And I'm here tonight as a member of HEAL

1 Utah, and also to speak out vehemently against Strake.

2 And I say strake, because, like all of you, I see

3 nothing divine about it.

4 I come from a small town, Price, Utah,
5 southern __ southeastern Utah. And I come from a small
6 family. But the impact that cancer has had on my
7 family is anything but small.

8 There are four, in my immediate family. All
9 of us have had cancer. My dad died of brain cancer.
10 I've had breast cancer. My mother and my brother have
11 had colon cancer.

12 My mom comes from a family of six; five of
13 which have all had cancer, two of which are still alive
14 today.

15 When I was doing some research, before
16 testifying on downwinder subject a couple of years ago,
17 I sat down with the owner of a mortuary in Price, and I
18 asked him what he would say would be the percentage of
19 deaths attributed to cancer, knowing that the cause of
20 death needed to be listed on the death certificate.

21 And without blinking an eye, he told me
22 between 30 and 40 percent. Just in the Carbon County
23 area alone.

24 There is nothing coincidental about those
25 figures. And I sincerely hope that none of us will be

1 gullible enough, this time around, to believe it when
2 our government tries to tell us that we are not in
3 danger.

4 Thank you.

5 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Bob Welts, followed by
6 Ursula Zwick.

7 MR. BOB WELTS: I think I can do this in 60
8 seconds. I'll try.

9 Some of you may remember me. My name is Bob
10 Welts. I used to be the weatherman on Channel 5.

11 Two weeks and a day ago my sweet wife of
12 58 years died of radiation poisoning. She used to go
13 down to southern Utah, her hometown, for a couple of
14 weeks while I went to Denver on a Navy training duty
15 cruise.

16 And while they were down there, they set off
17 these atom bombs. Now, I remember, and she remembers
18 very well, them telling us, Don't worry, it's safe. It
19 wasn't.

20 There's something about this horrible thing
21 that's __ maybe we haven't thought about yet, in
22 addition to the heartbreak, and the pain, and the
23 sickness that this thing is causing. Maybe some of us
24 haven't thought of the fact that the financial loss to
25 all of us must be unbelievable. I don't know how many

1 operations that sweet gal had. A whole flock of them.
2 Just briefly, one of them was she had her female organs
3 removed. This is serious stuff. This is terrible
4 stuff. It is heartbreaking stuff.

5 I just wish that these guys, if they __ if
6 they tell us, and if they really believe that this
7 stuff is safe, why don't they set it off in Washington
8 D.C.?

9 Thank you.

10 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

11 Ursula Zwick, followed by Alyssa Kay.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Ursula just gave you
13 her remarks and she left.

14 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: We'll take her written
15 remarks and add them.

16 Alyssa Kay, followed by Terry Crowther.

17 MS. ALYSSA KAY: My name is Allysa Kay. I
18 grew up in St. George. In St. George, Utah. And I
19 grew up listening to stories of downwinders. I'm too
20 young to have experienced that myself. Kind of.

21 I learned __ I had heard the stories of
22 people who would go out on the rooftops and watch the
23 explosions. I heard the stories of people, who were
24 children at the time, and the doctors of the Federal
25 Government sent to do checkups on them, telling them to

1 go play in the pink sand, because it was full of
2 vitamins. The pink sand that fell on St. George after
3 the explosions.

4 And when I was in elementary school, I
5 remember being sent home and told not to go outside and
6 play, not to open our windows, because one of the
7 below_ground tests had leaked, and there was radiation
8 heading our way.

9 And come to find out later, that wasn't the
10 only time that happened. That was just the only time
11 we were told about. And, you know, the Atomic Energy
12 Commission, they can't say they didn't know. They
13 can't say, you know, that they actually thought the
14 dust was good for the children, because they did tests
15 on herds of sheep, and they exposed them to the same
16 amount of radiation that they figured the downwinders
17 were experiencing, and the sheep got sick and died.
18 And they lied to us.

19 And the people who went to the public
20 information sessions, that the Federal Government held,
21 were told, This isn't the same government of the '50s.
22 There isn't anything to worry about. Apparently our
23 government doesn't lie to us anymore.

24 Yeah. We all know that we were lied to, not
25 too long ago, about weapons of mass destruction. And

1 this is a weapon of mass destruction.

2 And I just want to say tonight, I just want
3 the Department of Energy to know, and I want the
4 Department of Defense to know, and I want the Federal
5 Government to know, that we aren't your sheep, and
6 we're not __

7 (Audience applause.)

8 __ we're not going to be silent.

9 Thank you.

10 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

11 Terry Crowther, followed by Mary Dickson.

12 MR. TERRY CROWTHER: Name is Terry Crowther,
13 C_R_O_W_T_H_E_R.

14 I'm a downwinder. I was born and raised in
15 San Pete. I don't have too many relatives left.

16 I don't want to get emotional.

17 But I'm confused. I attended the hearing at
18 Grand America. I picked up the booklets. I've read
19 through it. I don't understand why this needs to take
20 place.

21 It seems to me that I read in there that
22 there is an agency that I never heard of before, that
23 has a \$2 billion plus budget. And I can't understand
24 why this money is not being spent better elsewhere.

25 And sounds like a bunch of guys want to set

1 off a bunch of firecrackers. Well, let's go take a
2 cherry bomb and put it on top of an ant hill, and let's
3 count the survivors that are left on the ant hill. You
4 can certainly use technology to exponentiate that into
5 700 tons.

6 Secondly, I don't know the full reasoning,
7 but what I get out of the booklet is that this is to be
8 a deterrent to our enemies, to Al Quida and the people
9 that are threatening us. That they will know that they
10 can't hide underground, that they can't build caves,
11 that they can't be secure. That we can show them that
12 we can get them wherever they want to hide.

13 Well, why do it here? Let's take it over
14 there. Let's test it in Afghanistan. Let's test it
15 for real, and let them really see the real show.

16 Thank you.

17 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

18 Mary Dickson, followed by Susan Dolan.

19 MS. MARY DICKSON: I too want to thank
20 Governor Huntsman for giving us a voice, and equally as
21 much for expressing his own concerns. That was very
22 important.

23 My name is Mary Dickson, and I'm a
24 downwinder. My life has been shaped by what happened
25 to me at the hands of my own government.

1 I had thyroid cancer, and I lost a sister to
2 lupous, but in the neighborhood I grew up in, along the
3 brim of Canyon Rim, I've counted 45 people who have
4 died of fallout_related illnesses.

5 During those 40 years of nuclear testing __
6 that only ended in 1992, by the way __ our government
7 assured us over, and over, there is no danger.
8 Radiation from fallout, they told us, is no more
9 harmful than the sun. And they told us that with a big
10 smile. Now we're being asked once again to believe the
11 same hollow assurances.

12 While Divine Strake does not use nuclear
13 materials, it will stir up radioactive debris from 928
14 nuclear bombs that were exploded in the past.

15 The Department of Energy asked us to believe
16 that the radioactive soils sucked up in that predicted
17 10,000_foot mushroom cloud will present no danger.

18 But we know, from past weapons tests, that
19 the fallout was scattered as far east as New York, and
20 all the way into Canada.

21 They also tried to tell us that we will get
22 no more radiation from this test than we will from
23 watching an hour of television. This is not the 1950s.
24 We are not so easily fooled.

25 When it comes to weapons testing, the

1 Federal Government has proved to us that it does not
2 deserve our trust. We traded our trust for our health
3 and the lives of our loved ones, and we will not do it
4 again.

5 The government speaks of rogue nations.
6 They say this test is a matter of national security.
7 What about our security? Why is our own government so
8 willing to put us in harms way again?

9 Fighting terror by terrorizing your own
10 citizens is not an option.

11 We must not repeat the tragic mistakes of
12 the past, nor should we so blithely enter into a new
13 nuclear era. Divine Strake was delayed once because of
14 public outcry, and our only victory can be
15 cancellation.

16 Never again will we blindly trust the
17 Federal Government. Never again will we give up our
18 power to those who abuse it and harm us.

19 No more mushroom clouds, nuclear or not.

20 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

21 Susan Dolan, followed by Randy Long.

22 MS. SUSAN DOLAN: Hi. I'm Susan Dolan, and
23 I'd like to thank Governor Huntsman for allowing us
24 this opportunity to speak.

25 I've had two miscarriages in the late '70s

1 and early '80s. And none of the ___ of my three sisters
2 ever had miscarriages, nor did my mother, or
3 grandmother ever have a miscarriage. And the only
4 difference was, my address was in Moab, Utah, and
5 theirs was in Michigan.

6 The government cannot predict what dose of
7 radiation downwind populations may receive from Divine
8 Strake, nor how many miscarriages, cancers, or
9 illnesses it may ultimately cause.

10 They give vague answers like minimal, and
11 minuscule. But that isn't good enough.

12 Once you've been exposed to repeated doses
13 of radiation, as so many people were during decades of
14 nuclear testing, your immune system is so compromised
15 that you cannot tolerate more radiation, which means
16 there's no such thing as a minimal dosage for us.

17 When it comes to the possibility of a
18 mushroom cloud dispersing long_lived radio nucleates
19 over civilian populations downwind, there is no
20 acceptable dose.

21 Given the past history of lies and cover_ups
22 regarding testing, and its lethal consequences, we must
23 demand outside, independent data, and trust nothing
24 that comes from federal agencies who will benefit from
25 this test. Yet theirs is the only data we are being

1 offered. And it does not allay our fears, nor answer
2 our questions.

3 Thank you.

4 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Randy Long, followed by
5 Pete Rasmussen.

6 MR. RANDY LONG: Yes. My name is Randy
7 Long. Only if you're in Salt Lake City.

8 I had a great uncle that helped dig the
9 diversion tunnels in Glen Canyon Dam in the '50s, and
10 we thought that was quite a feat, of course.

11 We thought that was, in a way, something our
12 family can be proud of. But that made it so that he
13 was in southern Utah at the time testing was being done
14 in Nevada, and about 25 years ago. So he passed away
15 of cancer.

16 And we, of course, can ___ at the time,
17 anyway, couldn't help but think that's probably where
18 he got it from.

19 So, again, we need to remember that.

20 If anything like this is going to cause
21 problems right away to the ___ to enemy or whatever,
22 what's it going to do to us after a while?

23 So, again, we need to remember that. Not
24 put ourselves in danger to hurt others.

25 And also, I'm an avid hiker and camper.

1 Member of several outdoor and environmental groups,
2 including some which we mentioned earlier.

3 And I've hiked in several places in southern
4 Utah, and will probably be hiking more, although that's
5 me probably right now. That ___ again ___ so I would
6 hate to be down there at the time they're doing that.

7 Some people never learn from past
8 experiences. Now, I had an experience a few years ago.
9 I was over skiing at ___ night skiing over at Park City,
10 which is one of my favorite ___ which is my favorite
11 resort, and has been for many years. But I had my
12 little thermometer on my parka that said five above.
13 And boy, that was for the birds, as far as I was
14 concerned. And I went inside, after I was through, and
15 looked at my feet. And boy they were red. I think
16 they were almost frostbitten. Since then I have not
17 been skiing when it's been that cold. So I think I've
18 learned from that. And I think the government should
19 do the same thing.

20 Thank you.

21 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you very much.

22 Pete Rasmussen, followed by George Cheney.

23 MR. PETE RASMUSSEN: Hello. My name is Pete
24 Rasmussen, and I live in Ogden valley here in northern
25 Utah.

1 I was hoping to be able to thank Governor
2 Huntsman in person for being here to listen to
3 everybody's concerns. And it's unfortunate that I'm
4 not able to do that, but I would like to say thank you
5 to Jon Huntsman for organizing this event, and for
6 organizing the similar event a week ago in St. George.

7 When I walked in and signed up, it said who
8 you're representing on the sign up. And I didn't know
9 really what to put there. And then she said to put
10 private citizen, and so I put that.

11 And now that I've heard all of you speak, I
12 think that I've realized a little bit about who I'm
13 representing. And so I guess I would say that I'm here
14 to represent my own family, who's not able to be here
15 tonight. My grandma, who lives in Sandy. And I'm here
16 to represent the land of Utah that I think we all love.
17 And I'm also here to represent future generations that
18 are also going to live upon this land.

19 And I'd also now like to just read two short
20 comments from friends that I met the last two weeks
21 while I was down in Washington County. They asked me
22 to read these comments directly to Governor Huntsman on
23 their behalf. And although I'm not able to do that,
24 I'd still like to read their words.

25 My name is Lois Iverson. My husband and I,

1 along with our children, moved to Cedar City in 1951.
2 Our son Norman died at 42 of cancer, my son Paul died a
3 horrible death at 55 from leukemia, and my husband died
4 three weeks later. His death certificate also said
5 cancer. And, in fact, all deaths were diagnosed as
6 cancer from over_exposure to radiation.

7 Divine Strake is wrong, and we need to stop
8 it. I don't know how, but I know we must.

9 We could have done so much for the schools
10 with all of that money that has been spent.

11 Thank you, Governor Huntsman, for listening
12 and for caring.

13 Lois Iverson; St. George, Utah.

14 Mr. Huntsman, NNSA, and Detra. I grew up in
15 Milford, Utah. In 1957 I was blood tested and
16 tattooed, along with my classmates and friends, by the
17 U.S. government during the nuclear testing of the '50s
18 and '60s, so they could monitor the effects of their
19 tests.

20 This is what I have to say, Mr. Huntsman.

21 I am not interested in going through this
22 again. Utah has gone through this horror once, and
23 once is enough. I'm through talking about this
24 testing. We need action from you, and the people need
25 to see action.

1 As for me, I'll lay in the middle of the
2 road to stop the Divine Strake explosives from being
3 detonated if I have to. The trucks will have to run me
4 over.

5 Thank you for listening. Please help Utah
6 now.

7 Sincerely, Michelle Bird, St. George, Utah.

8 Two weeks ago, at the Salt Lake hearing with
9 the federal agencies responsible for Divine Strake, a
10 man was escorted by five security agents for asking the
11 people in the room if they were opposed to Divine
12 Strake, and a week later, in St. George, at the Dixie
13 Center, Bob Welti and many residents of that area had
14 to stand on chairs to have their voices heard by the
15 federal agents that were there.

16 And so with that in mind, and in that we are
17 finally given the opportunity to have a public forum on
18 this issue, I was wondering if we could just take a
19 quick vote.

20 For all of those that are in favor of the
21 detonation of Divine Strake, please raise your hand and
22 say Aye.

23 (One individual raised hand and said aye.)

24 Thank you.

25 For all of those who oppose Divine Strake

1 that are in this room tonight, please raise your hand
2 and signify your opposition to Divine Strake by saying
3 nay.

4 (AUDIENCE NAYS HEARD.)

5 Thank you.

6 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

7 George Cheney, followed by Christopher
8 Thomas.

9 MR. GEORGE CHENEY: Thank you very much for
10 this opportunity.

11 My name is George Cheney, C_H_E_N_E_Y.

12 That's no relation.

13 I'm a professor at the University of Utah,
14 but I'm speaking as a private citizen tonight.

15 Others have already spoken very eloquently,
16 and passionately, and specifically about the
17 environmental and health effects of Divine Strake.

18 I'd like to talk for just a moment about
19 U.S. leadership, or lack thereof, at a time when there
20 are legitimate fears about the development of nuclear
21 weapons programs in Iran, and North Korea, at a time
22 when __ and just last week, the bulletin of the atomic
23 scientists moved their clock a few minutes closer to
24 midnight, predicting that in the next few years, the
25 nuclear club, as we used to call it, will have at least

1 30 members around the world. And that's just counting
2 nations.

3 At a time when U.S. credibility around the
4 world is certainly at its lowest ebb in my lifetime,
5 it's important __ critically important that the U.S.
6 not take this action. It's wrong for Nevada, it's
7 wrong for Utah, it's wrong for the United States at
8 this point in time.

9 Our country should be leading, not just in
10 nuclear non_proliferation, but toward nuclear
11 abolition.

12 As several others have said tonight, this
13 plan is not divine, it is not rationale, it is not
14 necessary.

15 Finally, I would say that somehow the entire
16 policy development process, if you can call it that,
17 has gotten turned on its head. Given all of the
18 evidence of risks on so many levels for this blast, the
19 burden of proof lies not with us to show that Divine
20 Strake is a bad idea, but rather the burden of proof
21 rests with Washington, to prove that it is a good idea.
22 And we should insist on nothing less.

23 Thank you.

24 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Christopher Thomas,
25 followed by Keller Higbee.

1 MR. CHRISTOPHER THOMAS: Good evening. My
2 name is Christopher Thomas. I'm the policy director
3 for HEAL Utah.

4 First off, I just really wanted to thank
5 Governor Huntsman for holding this hearing tonight.

6 Utahns are genuinely concerned about how
7 radiation impacts our state. And I think it is a
8 comfort to many here, and all over the state, that
9 Governor Huntsman has acted in a way that shows genuine
10 respect for that concern, and the experience of
11 downwinders that underlies it.

12 I think, as we have heard again and again
13 tonight, one of the main concerns we have here is
14 simply an issue of trust. And no Environmental
15 Assessment, no matter how detailed, or how many
16 hundreds of pages long, can adequately characterize the
17 height, and the breadth, and the weight of the distress
18 and outrage felt by this community. And the fact that
19 the Defense Threat Reduction Agency has been guilty of
20 so much doublespeak about this test has only worsened
21 and exacerbated the problem.

22 And we've talked about how the Environmental
23 Assessments have totally backtracked. There wasn't
24 radiation in the area, there is radiation in the area.
25 There will be no radioactive migration, there will be

1 radioactive migration.

2 One thing I wanted to point out is that I
3 find it deeply troubling for the same governmental
4 agencies who tell us that their computer models aren't
5 sophisticated enough to represent massive explosions,
6 rely on the results of computer models to assess the
7 threat to public health.

8 And then beyond the potential health impacts
9 of the test itself, there is a much bigger context to
10 Divine Strake, which may very well point our country
11 down the road to renewed nuclear weapons testing, as
12 many have spoken about tonight.

13 The now infamous Department of Defense
14 budget request, for what turned out to be Divine
15 Strake, talks about the tests being used to identify
16 the smallest proper nuclear yield to destroy an
17 underground target, as many people have pointed out.

18 When I brought this point up at the
19 Department of Defense's poster session two weeks ago,
20 the official I spoke with said that these budget
21 documents were actually quite old. So old that he
22 hadn't even seen them.

23 Well, I have here with me tonight a copy of
24 that budget document, and it is dated February of 2006.

25 So although the Department of Defense now

1 claims that Divine Strake has nothing to do with
2 researching or developing nuclear weapons, the fact
3 remains that there is no conventional weapon, now, or
4 even on the drawing board, that can pack the punch of
5 the 700_tons of ammonium nitrate planned for Divine
6 Strake.

7 And then, I want to talk just for a moment
8 about Complex 2030, which has been brought up earlier
9 tonight. And one part of it that wasn't mentioned,
10 which is the reliable replacement warhead program,
11 which I don't know if many people have heard about.

12 This program was initially proposed by
13 Congress as a way to cheaply and simply keep the United
14 States' existing nuclear arsenal up to date with proven
15 designs. But the Department of Energy has turned that
16 program into an expensive show and tell, for the best
17 nuclear weapons minds in our nation.

18 And what happened from this show and tell
19 was that a design was chosen for replacement warheads
20 that is actually a hybrid of designs developed by two
21 different weapons labs. So this new design has never
22 been tested or proven.

23 So my question is, with the __ with the
24 results of the Divine Strake test hitting underground
25 targets, and the fact that there is no conventional

1 weapon that can do this, will our war planners in the
2 Department of Defense decide they need to test these
3 new designs that have never been proven? I think
4 that's a real concern.

5 So because of the numerous uncertainties
6 surrounding the health impacts, the extreme distrust,
7 and the possibility of renewed nuclear weapons testing,
8 I strongly urge that this test be cancelled, and in a
9 very minimum, go through a full Environmental Impact
10 Statement process.

11 Thank you very much.

12 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

13 Keller Higbee followed by Michelle Peterson.

14 Why don't we go to Michelle Peterson. And
15 if Mr. Higbee comes in, we can go back to him.

16 All right. Pete Ashdown.

17 MR. PETE ASHDOWN: My name is Pete Ashdown,
18 and I am not an elected official.

19 I want to thank everyone for coming out
20 tonight. This is an important part of this process.

21 As I have looked at Divine Strake over the
22 past two years, I have always asked one question. I
23 always see the Department of Defense and the DTRA
24 saying, If we can do this, we'll know this. But what I
25 never see them doing is asking Why are we doing this?

1 Saddam Hussein came out of a ten_foot hole.
2 Adolph Hitler, which had the ___ he had the backing of a
3 nation behind him, came out of a 30_foot bunker. And
4 he came out all by himself.

5 So I went to the DTRA session, the
6 information session, and I asked ___ I asked Why are we
7 doing this? And they had the great posters ___ I don't
8 know if some of you saw ___ that bunkers are a growing
9 threat. Well, it seems to me that the growing threat
10 are teenagers using cell phones and fertilizer to blow
11 up our troops, not build bunkers with alien technology.

12 And I said, What's wrong with dropping a
13 five_ton bomb on the hole to the bunker so you can't
14 get access to the materials inside, and whatever is
15 inside can't get out?

16 Well, we want to destroy what's inside too.

17 Why? Well, it could be uncovered. They
18 could remove the dirt. They could get it out.

19 Who are we fighting? How can they do this?
20 How can they avoid our spy satellites? How can they
21 avoid our predator drones and use earth movers to
22 uncover their bunkers? It's baloney. It's pure
23 baloney. It's military masturbation, and I'm tired of
24 being forced to watch it.

25 When it comes to nuclear weapons, the United

1 States is the chain smoker telling the rest of the
2 world to quit.

3 It starts today. We do not need nuclear
4 weapons, and I will say it again. Senator Hatch, stop
5 this test. I applaud Governor Huntsman for the
6 opportunity to speak without being arrested.

7 But I want Governor Huntsman to know that I
8 will get arrested if this test goes forward, and I
9 challenge Governor Huntsman to join me and thousands of
10 other Utahns who will walk out on that range and get
11 arrested so this test does not happen.

12 Thank you very much.

13 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

14 Is Michelle Peterson here? Okay.

15 Collette Johnston? Do I have that correct?

16 MS. COLLETTE JOHNSTON: My name is Collette
17 Johnston. And there's not much I can say at this point
18 that hasn't been said, so I'll keep this very brief.

19 I currently reside in Moab, Utah, and I have
20 my entire life. I was raised by a uranium mining and
21 hauling family.

22 My background in the late '80s, I went to
23 work at a uranium mine and mill, and I worked as a
24 radiation safety technician, which I find ironic today.

25 Currently, I hold board seats on both the

1 University of Utah Huntsman Cancer Institute, and the
2 National Cancer Institute's Clinical Trial Review
3 boards. I'm also a member of the CARE program, which
4 is Consumer Advocates for Research and related
5 activities.

6 And most importantly, in the last five years
7 I have buried two immediate family members, countless
8 neighbors and friends. I have been with them as they
9 took their last breath, and I watched them die of
10 cancer that was related to radiation exposure.

11 They either worked in or lived around the
12 industry.

13 And to this point, I have personally been
14 unable to find any data supporting the claims that this
15 testing is in any way safe. To the contrary. My
16 background, my experience, and my research assure me it
17 is anything but.

18 The information being offered by our
19 government is frighteningly and eerily reminiscent of
20 that of the '50s.

21 So I say, in the names of those that I have
22 buried, and in the names of the hundreds of volunteer
23 hours that I spend, please, do not allow these losses,
24 as well as my time and the time of so many others,
25 volunteer time, to be wasted. Please do not test

1 Divine Strake.

2 I thank you for this opportunity.

3 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

4 Kurt, followed by Kevin Donahue.

5 Okay. Kevin Donahue?

6 Sam Gosh.

7 Okay. Mr. Gosh left his written comments.

8 I think he may have needed to leave.

9 Jani Iwamoto.

10 And the court reporter is suggesting that if
11 you'd like to leave your written notes, that will help
12 her also, capturing comments. So feel free to do that
13 and we'll be happy to include those.

14 MS. JANI IWAMOTO: My name is Jani Iwamoto.
15 Last night I had the privilege of seeing the
16 documentary White Light Black Rain, which was directed
17 in May by Stephen Okazaki, an academy award_winning
18 director.

19 The movie was about the survivors of the
20 atomic bombs. The question was asked about the fault
21 of the war. Stephen Okazaki stressed that the focus
22 and importance of the film was the victims, not who was
23 right or wrong, the discussion of which could go back
24 and forth forever.

25 In the film he interviewed some of the men

1 charged with the job of dropping the bomb. One of the
2 men said that the bomb hit its target and worked. We
3 were successful, and we did what we were told.

4 What they didn't know, at the time, was that
5 the first bomb dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945,
6 immediately killed 140,000 people.

7 On August 9, 1945, the second bomb was
8 dropped on the city of Nagasaki. The bomb immediately
9 killed 70,000 people. The bomb decimated the largest
10 Catholic community in Asia at that time.

11 The temperature after the bomb __ after the
12 bomb was dropped reach 9,000 degrees Fahrenheit. The
13 winds reached 1,000 miles per hour. 160,000 people
14 have since died from the effects of the radioactive
15 fallout.

16 Within days, weeks, and onward, radiation
17 and its effects set in. Black rain fell, and they
18 drank, not knowing they were filling their bodies with
19 radioactive waste.

20 Aside from the toxicity, a Japanese man
21 movingly stated in the movie that he had killed a woman
22 and child. He had no idea that giving water to
23 severely dehydrated people would shock their system and
24 kill them.

25 Doctors had no idea how to treat them. U.S.

1 doctors went to Japan to study the effects of the
2 radiation. They examined them, but no treatment was
3 given.

4 Japanese photographers took pictures and
5 filmed footage within days of the bombings. The
6 footage of the aftermath was unbelievable. It was
7 complete devastation. The Japanese photographers were
8 to give everything to the U.S. government during
9 occupation. Our government kept these documents from
10 the public until 1975, 30 years after the bombings.

11 Somehow, not all of the photographs and
12 footage remain. Stephen Okazaki was able to attain
13 original footage and photographs from the Japanese
14 photographers, who had preserved them.

15 With regard to Divine Strake, it seems
16 simple and clear. There was prior testing on the site.
17 Radioactivity remains. Scientists know how long,
18 and __ it lasts __ how long it lasts, and we know its
19 effects.

20 There were victims, some which were the
21 downwinders, which are acknowledged by our government.

22 There has been and always will be government
23 non_disclosures.

24 Not withstanding the above, this testing
25 will be the beginning of an escalation of something

1 impossible to stop.

2 It is so difficult to try and explain to my
3 children why our country can test and have nuclear
4 power but others cannot.

5 The weapons today, and the ones we are
6 preparing to use in the future, are more potent.
7 Worldwide, there are enough nuclear weapons to equal
8 400,000 Hiroshimas.

9 Our government needs to listen to the
10 downwinders, the actual victims who have lived with
11 their past decisions. They need to listen to us,
12 because we are stakeholders in our future.

13 Thank you.

14 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

15 GiGi Brandt, followed by Steve Bateson.

16 MS. GIGI BRANDT: I'm here representing the
17 League of Women Voters of Utah.

18 The League of Women Voters commends Governor
19 Huntsman for scheduling this hearing to give Utah
20 citizens the opportunity to comment on the proposal of
21 the Divine Strake test scheduled for the Nevada test
22 sites.

23 The league is concerned about Divine Strake
24 primarily on the basis of our support for air quality.
25 We are concerned that the mushroom cloud resulting from

1 the detonation will allow radioactive particles
2 detrimental to the public health and to the
3 environment.

4 In the past, citizens living downwind from
5 the test sites have paid in health costs very dearly.
6 Government proposals need to be especially cognizant of
7 their past actions, and their results.

8 Secondly, the League is very concerned about
9 the public involvement in this process of making policy
10 and implementing government action.

11 This process has been flawed. The first
12 Environmental Statement was ruled inadequate by a judge
13 in the summer of 2006. A revised assessment statement
14 was released with a very short comment period.

15 The platform for public hearings was
16 designed for information rather than for public
17 comment.

18 This process has not been designed to give
19 Utah citizens confidence that their interests will be
20 weighed carefully. We have had difficulty
21 understanding the fast track of this proposal.

22 Certainly the consideration of the health
23 effects merits a very thorough Environmental Impact
24 Statement.

25 I should mention that I am also authorized

1 by the League of Women Voters of Arizona, as well, to
2 mention that they share our concerns about Divine
3 Strake.

4 Thank you.

5 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Steve Bateson, followed
6 by Rachel White.

7 MR. STEVE BATESON: Hi. My name is Steve
8 Bateson. I'm an individual.

9 The ___ Divine Strake is a part of the global
10 strike force concept to quickly respond to threats
11 anywhere in the world with conventional tactics and
12 munitions.

13 The proposed action is an intricate part of
14 the global strike concept of the national defense.

15 The global ___ or the Divine Strake is going
16 to explode 700_tons of conventional or ammonia
17 fertilizer fuel_based explosives.

18 According to the Defense Threat Reduction
19 Agency, delivery mechanisms, along with payload, are
20 roughly double the weight of the payload, requiring a
21 conventional weapon weighing 1,400 tons. It's a
22 virtual impossibility.

23 The document ___ the Environmental Assessment
24 is flawed. The purpose and need is based on a lie.

25 This is not a test to deliver a conventional weapon, it

1 is a __ it's disguised as research. It's disguised
2 research for nuclear weapons.

3 I think this assessment needs to be rejected
4 on that basis alone.

5 Thank you.

6 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you. Rachel
7 White followed by Ellen Birrell.

8 Is Rachel here?

9 Ellen __ do I have it right? Birrell?

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think she left.

11 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Okay. Cindy Bur?

12 Cindy will be followed by Jean Cheney.

13 MS. CINDY BUR: Hi. I like standing here
14 because I like to be able to see your faces.

15 I'm really sorry when I hear the other
16 people speak that I can't see their faces.

17 My name is Cindy Bur, B_U_R. I'm a resident
18 downwind in Salt Lake City.

19 I am very grateful to you, and to Governor
20 Huntsman, for allowing us to speak here today.

21 I guess I'm still holding the question,
22 though, where these comments will go?

23 It's very empowering for me to hear
24 everybody's personal stories, particularly the personal
25 stories, and all of the information together.

1 I was already adamantly opposed to
2 everything about Death Strike. I cannot call it the
3 Divine Strake. The title, the fallout, the purpose of
4 it. I'm so opposed to, you know, the whole package.

5 But I just __ can you answer that question?
6 All our comments, where will they go?

7 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Yes. Cindy, what will
8 happen, after tonight, is the __ we'll create a
9 transcript of all of the comments. Governor Huntsman
10 will include this transcript and the comments from the
11 St. George hearing with his testimony, and his letter,
12 and those will go to the Federal Agency by
13 February 7th, which is the close of comments.

14 We're also going to post this transcript,
15 and the transcript from St. George, along with
16 governor's comments, on the DEQ Web site. And that
17 will be www.deq.utah.gov, so that everyone will have
18 access to this, as soon as we've completed the hearings
19 and received the transcripts.

20 And we hope the comments will be taken to
21 heart by the Federal Agency as they review their
22 decision.

23 MS. CINDY BUR: Okay. Great. Thank you.
24 It's a little frightening the speed at which they're
25 moving. Part of me also wonders is it because they

1 want to get this going before there's an administration
2 change?

3 I also wanted to respond to the people who
4 said that they feared that they would be emotional.
5 And my response to you and everybody is, we need to be
6 emotional.

7 We're here a bit, it sounds like, preaching
8 to the choir. It sounds like there's only one admitted
9 person who supports this D Strake, and so therefore, we
10 need to be active.

11 So I just want to take this opportunity,
12 rather than to repeat what other people have said about
13 why they're opposed, to really encourage you to talk.
14 Talk as much as you can. Light fires. Try to
15 encourage other people to write letters, to make phone
16 calls, to do what we can. Because we're all hearing
17 today, a too familiar road that we're traveling down.

18 And I say to Senator Hatch and Senator
19 Bennett, stop this test. I say to all of you, whatever
20 we can do, whoever we can influence, we need to stop
21 this. We need to stop nuclear proliferation.

22 Thank you.

23 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

24 Jean Cheney, followed by Tara Maher.

25 Is Tara here?

1 MS. TARA MAHER: Yes.

2 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Okay. Thank you.

3 And Tara will be followed by Shea Pickelner.

4 I apologize if I don't have that name right.

5 MS. TARA MAHER: Hi. I'm Tara Maher.

6 That's M_A_H_E_R.

7 I'm a teacher in Salt Lake City, and I'm

8 trained in the environmental and earth sciences.

9 I am opposed to Divine Strake, as the
10 potential health risks are real and completely
11 unacceptable. We need to prioritize public health, and
12 value well_being.

13 Divine Strake is designed to yield
14 information useful for weapons development. The U.S.
15 military's weapons arsenal already demonstrates our
16 international domination.

17 We do not need to generate more weapons
18 technology, but evaluate why we choose to use war and
19 intimidation as diplomatic tools.

20 Is self_defense necessary? Absolutely.

21 But if a research project happens at the
22 expense of public health, is it really increasing
23 national security?

24 Isn't it more likely that Divine Strake
25 would hurt the very people this government needs to

1 protect?

2 Finally, I am concerned that Divine Strake
3 would be the beginning of resumed nuclear testing in
4 the United States. I think the testing in the 20th
5 Century is one of the saddest parts of our history.
6 Truly tragic.

7 So here we are, at the threshold of a
8 decision. Do we walk back into the territory of
9 weapons development, with its environmental health and
10 ethical quandaries? Or do we step into the future and
11 make a stand for public health, well_being, and
12 peaceful diplomatic solutions?

13 These are the choices that define our
14 character. When we have all passed on, and future
15 generations are analyzing our actions, will they be
16 filled with regret or inspiration?

17 We must stop Divine Strake and renewed
18 nuclear testing, and move into an era of hope.

19 Thank you.

20 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

21 And following Shea will be Meg Hards.

22 MS. SHEA PICKELNER: My name is Shea
23 S_H_E_A; Pickelner, P_I_C_K_E_L_N_E_R.

24 And I just want to start by __ a lot of
25 people have thanked Governor Huntsman, but I want to

1 thank all of the people who have spoken tonight,
2 because I have learned so much from everybody who's
3 been here.

4 And I don't know that I have all of that
5 much new to add, except for that I do want to refocus,
6 as some of the others speakers have, on not just the
7 immediate health risk, which I think has been so
8 emotionally ___ and has been talked about so well by
9 many of the downwinders, but also the longer term
10 global health risk of this arms race.

11 I strongly believe that developing and
12 testing new weapons is not going to make our global
13 community more safe; rather, tests such as the Divine
14 Strake is going to fuel continued violence and
15 resentment towards the United States. And that carries
16 with it its own huge environmental issues beyond just
17 what can be addressed in this Environmental Assessment
18 or in an Environmental Impact Statement.

19 And I just want to end with a couple of
20 questions of when will we learn that we can't fight
21 terror with terror? And when will we learn how to
22 divert some of our vast resources that we splurge on
23 weapons of mass destruction, and put those resources
24 towards true tools of peace?

25 Thanks.

1 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

2 Meg Hards, followed by Lisa Hildebrand.

3 MS. MEG HARDS: My name is Meg Hards.

4 That's H_A_R_D_S. And I'm a life_long resident of
5 Utah, as was my dad, and his. Lived in a variety of
6 the communities in Utah. Some up north, some down
7 south.

8 And one of the things I've noticed about
9 this particular issue, this particular time, is it's
10 bringing all of the sides together for a change.
11 Environmentalists and Republicans have the same message
12 for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on this one, and
13 that is, We don't want it. We're tired of being lied
14 to. We're tired of being used and abused.

15 I think we should just draw a big circle
16 around Utah saying No nuclear anything. No mining, no
17 processing, no explosions, no dumping, no storing.

18 I'm frightened by the State of the Union
19 last night when our so_called president referred to
20 safe use of nuclear energy, because it hasn't happened
21 yet. And it frightens me to think that the nuclear
22 race is back on, which is one of the only things that I
23 can be thankful for President Reagan, was he stopped
24 the arms race. He stopped the proliferation, and now
25 Bush is starting it back up.

1 So I'm extremely frightened. For 25 years
2 I've been attending hearings about nuclear this, and
3 nuclear that, and the health ramifications, and the
4 environmental ramifications, and all of the deaths.
5 And it's not just here, it's all over the world, like
6 Shea talked about.

7 This is the beginning of a whole new set,
8 and other people have talked about, of new bombs, to
9 keep this war going.

10 And it has to stop.

11 I think finally, even military families want
12 their kids back.

13 So on that note, I'd like to say, no. No
14 nuclear anything. No more.

15 And remind the president, and the Nuclear
16 Regulatory Commission, this is a red state. Not that
17 I'm red. I happen to be blue. But nevertheless, I'd
18 like that message to go out loud and clear to the
19 Nuclear Regulatory Commission, that we don't want it,
20 and by God they better think about that. Their
21 constituents are us. So here's our chance to revamp
22 some things, rethink some things, and stop the whole
23 nuclear movement until we know what to do with it.
24 It's not safe, in any form.

25 Thank you.

1 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you. Lisa
2 Hildebrand, followed by Barbara Bellows_TerraNova.

3 MS. LISA HILDEBRAND: Hi. I want to thank
4 you for this opportunity to talk.

5 Before I came over here I called my mother,
6 who's in St. George. And she can't walk very well and
7 wasn't able to get to the hearings. And she just said
8 a couple of sentences.

9 The government told us it was safe in the
10 '50s. They told us to stay inside, and just clean off
11 your cars.

12 I raised six children in St. George, and was
13 only 100 miles east of the Nevada test site. Almost
14 all of my friends are dead from cancers caused from
15 being downwind. My husband died three years ago from
16 multiple myeloma, which is a cancer that RICA has says
17 that downwinders can die from. Anyway.

18 She said, Why are they trying to do this?
19 Do they want to kill all of us that oppose the tests?

20 And I was listening to Zell McGee earlier,
21 about the breastfeeding. And my sisters that are
22 nurses, they said, Why did you get __

23 I have thyroid disease. My mother has
24 thyroid disease. And she breastfed me, which means
25 that it went through her milk to me, and we both have

1 the thyroid disease. But my sisters, who didn't get
2 this, weren't breastfed.

3 So it is very dangerous to all of us. And
4 on behalf of the 16,000 that RICA has compensated for
5 their deaths. 16,000. Their deaths were only worth
6 between 50,000 and \$100,000 a piece.

7 If they were compensated for __ like they
8 were at the trade center, of a million dollars a piece,
9 what kind of money would our government give to our
10 state when they kill all of us from being downwind?

11 And I just want to stop this test. If
12 there's anything we can do to close down the test site,
13 that would be great.

14 Thank you for your time.

15 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you. After
16 Barbara, Ed Firmage, Jr.

17 MS. BARBARA BELLOWES_TERRA NOVA: My name is
18 Barbara Bellows_TerraNova.

19 Thank you, Governor Huntsman. The Ryder
20 Theater Rojack said that the world will be saved not by
21 liberals, though I am one, but by Republicans who stand
22 up and say, This isn't what we mean.

23 In August 2004, the Sierra Club put out a
24 report called Deception and Pollution at Ground Zero.
25 And it was updated after Katrina.

1 In looking at it, what we find is that, of
2 course, the Inspector General of the EPA came forward
3 and said, We were told we had to change the wording, so
4 that Wall Street could reopen. It's now actually
5 policy. The Department of Homeland Security has
6 developed something called Optimization. And according
7 to Optimization __ well, health risk information is
8 withheld or put into the context of other social and __
9 social objectives and needs. It happened again after
10 Katrina, when they used the opportunity to lower the
11 standards for a variety of employment and trucking
12 things. They just lower the standards at any excuse.

13 And the EPA, the OSHA no longer have any say
14 in it, because they are now within the Department of
15 Homeland Security.

16 In __ you said __ the young lady said
17 something about starting a nuclear warfare again. In
18 1991, January 17th, Bush_Cheney __ but that was the
19 former president and Cheney as defense department head,
20 began the nuclear war when they dropped tons and tons
21 of depleted uranium on top of Iraq, and left that
22 country a debacle. 500,000 children have died in Iraq
23 world 1991 to 2000, 2001, something like that.

24 The things started to come to light about
25 depleted uranium, in 2001, as the new Bush_Cheney were

1 getting ready to take over the White House.

2 The reports in Europe were saying that NATO
3 forces, who had been involved in Okosovo, were coming
4 out with an immense amount of leukemia and cancers. It
5 was very large in the international press.

6 We didn't particularly hear about it here,
7 but the world health organizations said to people, and
8 a Dr. Keith Babberstock, who was the head of the
9 International Commission on Radiological Protection, he
10 was the head radiation scientist at World Health
11 Organization, brought forward an article that said that
12 there was far more health risks than were ever known
13 about depleted uranium. The United States put pressure
14 on the World Health Organization, and his report was
15 shelved.

16 I say this because you have to understand
17 the pattern. We have things like we're told it's low
18 level. That does not mean weaker. It means a smaller
19 circle. It means when it hits your body, it's just
20 fine to hit all of the cells around it. And that's why
21 they found an enormous amount of people who are coming
22 out with multiple cancers in the body, which is
23 something doctors had never seen before.

24 So low level does not mean safer. Never
25 believe that it does. Depleted uranium does not mean

1 empty. It means ___ I don't know why the word was
2 chosen ___ but 99.03 percent of depleted uranium is
3 exactly like uranium. Is exactly like the enhanced
4 uranium that is the basis of nuclear warfare.

5 Unfortunately, people in the Middle East
6 know that we've been using nuclear warfare on them for
7 a very long time. They do find a bit of hypocrisy.

8 The bunker busters that they are saying they
9 want to work on here, it's ___ they pierce the earth
10 because they have depleted uranium at the tip. It
11 works because, as it strikes, it vaporizes, and
12 sharpens, and the particles go in the air. And that's
13 what we breathe in, and that's what causes our cancers.

14 Unfortunately, it also can affect the mantle
15 of the earth. This is a very frightening concept.
16 When we look at the tsunamies, when we look at the
17 humongous earthquakes that shattered Afghanistan a
18 couple of years ago. And they are continuing, and
19 geologist are shocked about the patterns that they have
20 never before seen.

21 There was a Doctor YJK Yonsinean, I'm sorry,
22 presented a report to the human rights protection ___
23 one of the ___ the one that they just tore apart at the
24 United Nations. That panel. He presented it in 2002.
25 Then they decided it would be a good idea to put ___

1 bolt it in to shut the whole thing down.

2 It is important to understand that the NATO
3 conservative movement is based on the teaching of Leo
4 Strauss, who taught that it is best to keep people in
5 place by creating noble lies about huge enemies that we
6 must constantly be frightened of. Use religion and
7 patriotism to keep them in line, and always perpetuate
8 warfare.

9 Lastly, I would like to know if anyone can
10 help us find out who has stock in what. I do believe
11 that we've seen that the former President Bush had
12 stock in the Carlyle Group. I do believe his son would
13 be able to inherit it. You know, so we can't have a
14 death tax.

15 It is important to understand that there are
16 people that want this to go on beyond logic. This is
17 not what we want.

18 Last thing, I encourage you to go to the
19 Huffington Post. Yesterday's article about Elizabeth
20 Cheney, the daughter of Dick Cheney, shows that she is
21 both a major stockholder in Lockheed Martin, and is
22 working on a bringing together the plans to attack
23 Iran, just like the Office of Special Plans was putting
24 together information.

25 We have to know this stuff. We have to talk

1 about it. This is not the United States that we want.

2 And finally, Divine Strake does not strike
3 me as funny when we have a president who believes in
4 the rapture.

5 Thank you.

6 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Ed Firmage, Jr.,
7 followed by John Giles.

8 Ed Firmage, Jr.

9 MR. ED FIRMAGE, JR.: It's been my honor to
10 sit here and listen to this testimony. I hope that at
11 least our congressional representatives will have a
12 chance to hear it.

13 And I'd like to suggest that, among the
14 people who receive this transcript, our congressional
15 representatives, especially those who have not chosen
16 to oppose this, receive copies.

17 And I want to thank Governor Huntsman, as a
18 Democrat, for allowing this to happen.

19 I too went over, like many of you, to the
20 so-called hearing that the government offered at the
21 hotel, which was basically just a government sales
22 pitch for this disaster.

23 I do find it ironic, and I wouldn't mind the
24 governor commenting on the fact that all of this is
25 going to be put on the DEQ Web site in the same week

1 that the legislature votes to cut their funding in a
2 year when we have a \$1.6 billion budget surplus.

3 When we pull the rug out from under the
4 guardians, who is going to protect us?

5 Like many of you ___ and I won't belabor
6 this, because others have said it well ___ I oppose
7 Divine Strake because of its dangers to our health. I
8 oppose it because it is costly, and will prove to be
9 more costly still as it will inevitably lead to a new
10 arms race and the development of new nuclear weapons,
11 at a time when we struggle to find ways to feed our
12 own ___ feed and shelter our own homeless.

13 I don't know if you saw the picture in the
14 Trib today, of the man, the homeless man, with
15 frostbite.

16 I oppose it strategically. I think it's bad
17 military strategy.

18 One of the things that struck me about this
19 is that if this leads, as it almost certainly will, to
20 new nuclear weapons, and a new arms race, something
21 else, though, is quite different about this.

22 In the Cold War era, the idea was that the
23 use of nuclear weapons was the unthinkable resort when
24 everything else had failed. It was the doomsday
25 scenario. And the prospect was supposed to be so

1 horrible that no one would ever use nuclear weapons, or
2 push an enemy to the point where he felt he had to use
3 nuclear weapons against you. But that is not the case
4 with this generation of nuclear weapons.

5 The whole point of bunker busters is to
6 develop weapons that are to be used in ordinary combat.
7 These are not nuclear deterrents. The idea that we are
8 scaring Al Quida with this is nonsense. We already
9 have the nuclear means to scare Al Quida, and every
10 other person on the planet.

11 The sole reason for developing a weapon like
12 this is to use it; to use it in regular combat, under
13 ordinary circumstances.

14 Now, I ask you, the first time we use this,
15 what will happen around the world with every thug,
16 dictator, terrorist organization? They're going to
17 want these too. And not simply as nuclear deterrents
18 to be used in the last resort, but to be used like
19 we're using them, as a first_strike weapon.

20 This heralds a dramatic destabilization of
21 the world. That will make the present situation in
22 Iraq look like a cake walk.

23 So I think this is bad policy all around.

24 And I'll close just by reading you the
25 summary statement from the Federation of American

1 Scientists.

2 These aren't a bunch of yokels from Utah.

3 These are people, some of them, who build nuclear

4 weapons.

5 "U.S. nuclear weapons simply have no

6 remaining role on the battlefield of the future,

7 period."

8 Thank you.

9 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

10 John Giles, followed by Rupert Steele.

11 MR. JOHN GILES' SISTER: I am not John

12 Giles. John Giles is my brother, who had to leave, but

13 we would be remiss not to stand up for him.

14 I am a very simple_minded person when it

15 comes to politics. I don't have all of these

16 incredible facts that you people have. I go to work, I

17 go home, I raise my family.

18 But I cannot understand why, in the world,

19 when I read the newspaper today, that this meeting was

20 not on the front page. I had to call my brother and

21 find out if it was still going on.

22 And then I drive up, and why aren't the

23 streets filled with cars, and this have to be put

24 somewhere else because it's such a huge issue?

25 I told my son tonight, I've been working so

1 much, and I said, I'm sorry I can't stay home with you
2 tonight before you go to bed. I need to go to this.
3 And I explained what it was. And he said, Mom, I saw a
4 movie like that. He says, You go, mom. So I hope that
5 all of you can continue on with these incredible facts,
6 but make it simple for us simple_minded people, that
7 don't come to these meetings all the time, but how
8 somebody can miss on this is disgusting.

9 So, You go.

10 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

11 Rupert Steele, followed by MaryEllen Navas.

12 MR. RUPERT STEELE: I want to thank Governor
13 Huntsman for giving us all the opportunity to express
14 our concerns. My name is Rupert Steele. I'm the
15 chairman of the Confederated Tribes of the Goshute,
16 located south of Wendover about 70 miles.

17 And the Goshute tribe has a Peace in
18 Friendship Treaty with the United States government,
19 where the U.S. government created the reservation and
20 promised to take care of the tribal people; provide for
21 their welfare, provide for their education, and TAKE
22 CARE OF THE LAND.

23 And I feel that ___ and I feel that this
24 Divine Strake project jeopardizes all of those promises
25 that are identified in our treaty.

1 And I oppose the Divine Strake project
2 because we all have stressed our points concerning what
3 it can do to us. We know the magnitude of this type of
4 explosion will dislodge the radio particles and residue
5 from the earlier atomic tests in the 1950s and '60s.
6 And there is a very high potential that there are
7 hidden radioactive material which are worked into the
8 soil in the Nevada training site.

9 Once this explosion goes __ is set off, the
10 contaminated soil has no where to go except up, and be
11 carried in the north_northeast direction by the winds
12 aloft. And the question that was posed by someone
13 earlier, Is it safe? If it is safe, why isn't it done
14 when the wind is blown to the south?

15 We have learned, through painful experience,
16 about the devastating effects of the above_ground
17 testing in the '50s and '60s, that sent radio __
18 radioactive clouds in north_northeast direction,
19 covering Idaho, Utah, Nevada, and Arizona. But we are
20 told that this is an underground test. The explosion
21 will be done underground. But the radioactive
22 material, again, will go nowhere but up.

23 And we all have lived, our parents have
24 lived through the devastating effects that it had
25 during the atomic tests.

1 And I strongly oppose, and disapprove of any
2 bomb detonation on the aboriginal lands of the
3 Shoshone. My mother is of the Goshute tribe, and my
4 father is of the Shoshone tribe. And it's __ Divine
5 Strake and the Nevada training site is located within
6 the exterior boundaries of the aboriginal territories
7 of the Shoshone.

8 And I am deeply concerned that, when I'm
9 reading the EIS, the initial EIS, that there is no
10 identification of any mitigation plans of any human
11 remains that are found in that area.

12 The Shoshone people hold the NTS lands as a
13 sacred part of their lives, and their cultural,
14 spiritual, and religious practice in the area will be
15 irreparably harmed by the explosion.

16 Ancestral remains have been unearthed and
17 removed from the burial places at the NTS, and more
18 ancestral remains are threatened by the explosion. The
19 lands of the NTS site will become unusable for any
20 purpose after the explosion. The lands will not be
21 enjoyed by our future generations, because of the
22 widespread contamination of the ground by radioactive
23 debris and material.

24 The explosion presents a clear and present
25 danger to the desecration, and irreparable harm and

1 injury of the sacred lands. We want to be ensured that
2 the proposed test will not expose the citizens of Utah,
3 including the members of the Goshute tribes who are
4 citizens of the state of Utah, to radioactive material
5 greater than what is naturally found in the
6 environment.

7 Once deposited, we don't know what the
8 harmful effects are going to be. Is it going to be
9 there for eternity? Who's going to clean it up?

10 So the Goshute tribe has questions that
11 remain unanswered.

12 And there was no consultation by the federal
13 agencies with the Goshute tribe. They did not come to
14 our table and say, What do you feel about this plan?
15 Although there is a consultation policy signed by the
16 president that anything that effects the indian tribes,
17 there should be consultation held.

18 And I want to thank all of you.

19 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

20 MaryEllen Navas, followed by Bob Archibald.

21 MS. MARYELLEN NAVAS: I'm MaryEllen Navas,
22 N_A_V_A_S. And my husband Bob and I have a copy that
23 we will leave with you. And it's slightly edited, so
24 you'll need that too.

25 We're here today to voice both our protest

1 and our deep concerns about Divine Strake.

2 We're part of a community of people in our
3 retirement years who have chosen to come back to Utah.
4 In our case, it's because of the singular natural
5 beauty of this state, and the abundance of clean,
6 unspoiled, open lands available for public use and
7 appreciation.

8 Between us, we've lived in ten other states
9 in addition to Utah. There is no other state like
10 this. We consider it a precious place.

11 World moving here eight years ago, we've
12 joined with the growing populations of concerned Utahns
13 who are opposed to the spoiling of Utah through the
14 development of nuclear weapons and the storage of
15 nuclear waste.

16 We vow to work tirelessly, with you, to make
17 our voices heard and influential in the decision
18 process of our state government.

19 We're grateful for the governor we have now,
20 Governor Huntsman, and those few Utah legislators who
21 are paying attention to what their constituents want,
22 value, and need, and most of all, what we worry about.

23 MR. BOB ARCHIBALD: Our opposition to Divine
24 Strake is based on three principals, each of which has
25 been spoken to tonight eloquently.

1 The same ___ in saying that, I want to say
2 that we believe that these principals, and other
3 arguments that have been raised here tonight, should be
4 iterated, and reiterated, tirelessly, until
5 decision_makers hear them, and act.

6 Our iteration is, number one, nuclear
7 weapons development is not only wrong thinking, it's a
8 fools game that can only lead to further fueling the
9 bullying and adversarial identity of the United States,
10 and the further fueling of nuclear weapons
11 proliferation.

12 Currently, the U.S. spends ___ the vast
13 majority of all weapons expenditures in the world is
14 spent by the United States.

15 Further, the anticipated future use of a
16 nuclear weapon by the United States, for any reason,
17 must be considered completely unconscionable, and we
18 must oppose it absolutely.

19 Second; the test of Divine Strake will
20 increase the health risks to living populations in Utah
21 and the region.

22 Divine ___ a Divine Strake test will
23 contaminate, and must be opposed.

24 Third; nuclear weapons development creates
25 new nuclear waste. Nuclear waste disposal is currently

1 a huge problem worldwide.

2 Supposed reprocessing of spent fuel is an
3 illusion and a mirage. There is no safe place to put
4 the stuff, and no one wants it stored near where they
5 live.

6 The current high_level nuclear waste storage
7 facilities are in deep trouble, and clean_up projects
8 in deeper trouble.

9 Take Hanford, Washington, where the
10 government admits that toxic waste has leaked into the
11 groundwater, and drains to the Columbia River.

12 There is no clear plan to do anything about
13 this calamity. It would be irresponsible, if not
14 insane, to ignore the consequences of adding to the
15 current insoluble nuclear waste problem that exists.

16 In conclusion, I want to appeal to the
17 rationale side of each of us, as well as the emotional.

18 We must do everything we can to stop the
19 development of additional nuclear weapons, and we must
20 do everything we can to leave, to our children and our
21 grandchildren, a world and a legacy of natural beauty,
22 health, possibility, and peace.

23 Thank you.

24 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Donald Ries, followed
25 by Christine Searles.

1 MR. DONALD RIES: Thank you. My name is Don
2 Ries. I'm a newcomer to Utah. We just moved here this
3 summer.

4 The administration and the Department of
5 Defense have lost the most important thing they have to
6 persuade others; their credibility.

7 Where is the data for their statements that
8 there would be no dust beyond the site, and then that
9 there would be no significant radiation downwind? And
10 what is "significant?"

11 How is the soil tested? At what depth?
12 At what distance between samples? And what were the
13 results? I haven't heard any of this.

14 I've taught science for 32 years. The
15 premier questions for all of my students were two
16 simple questions: One, how do you know? And two,
17 where is your data?

18 The DOD needs to begin to reclaim its
19 credibility by publishing all of the data, so that
20 others can judge whether or not this thing is safe.

21 At a minimum, until that data and the
22 reasons behind this test are published and on the
23 table, there should be no test.

24 Thank you.

25 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

1 Kristeen Searles, followed by Barbara
2 Stratford.

3 MS. KRISTEEN SEARLES: I'm Kristeen Searles.

4 And the last meeting I went to, they said
5 there was hundreds of people there. Perhaps all night.
6 I was so angry that I could just walk into that
7 building. That there were no lines. I expected to get
8 there __ I was in a hurry to get there, expecting lines
9 out the door, down around the corner.

10 Instead, I walk right in. I walked up to
11 her and gave her my comments. I was the only one
12 standing there to give comments. I was so angry I was
13 shaking, and again tonight I'm a little bit upset and
14 shaking. I've been up world 4:00 this morning. I
15 looked up the Web site last night to find out where
16 this meeting was.

17 I want to thank the government for one thing
18 right off the bat. The opportunity to be able to say
19 what I want to in this country.

20 To be able to write, and read, and pray the
21 way I want to.

22 I'm asking our government to use those same
23 great founding father's ideas, to give us the
24 opportunity to speak out, to pull ourselves together,
25 to say no, and that's why we have the Constitution.

1 I don't understand why our government has
2 not listened to us to this point, but I know they will,
3 if we have to stand together. Even if you can't speak,
4 stand together, hold hands. There is wondrous things
5 that can be happening with numbers of people.

6 Carl Sagan didn't want the bombs to go off
7 down in Nevada anymore. He used to chain himself at
8 ground zero. He died from cancer. I refuse, as a
9 little girl, as a grown_up, to allow this to happen
10 without me speaking out.

11 I may not be able to do much, but I'm
12 spreading the word, and I will continue to spread the
13 word. And I ask that everyone else spreads the word.
14 Get your voices heard.

15 Thank you for the opportunity of speaking.

16 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

17 Barbara Stratford, followed by Trent Alvey.

18 MS. BARBARA STRATTON: Thank you.

19 My name is Barbara Stratton. I just
20 recently moved back to Utah. I've been living in
21 Missouri. And I would like to express the fact that my
22 father died from multiple myeloma, which he got as a
23 downwinder.

24 He worked for the railroad, and was
25 constantly on the train going someplace. And they

1 offered us compensation, but no one can compensate for
2 my father. He was a good man, an honorable man, and he
3 worked hard. He loved his family.

4 And he gave himself over for experimentation
5 because he said, What if one of my children, or one of
6 my loved ones gets this disease and they don't know
7 enough about it? And he did this until the day he
8 died.

9 He was a great man, because he did what he
10 could for his family, and he did what he could for
11 those he loved.

12 This is a horrible thing to be happening
13 again. And it's a hideous thing that happens to us as
14 a people, and as a person who loves their neighbors,
15 and loves their kids, loves their family.

16 You have to stand up, and be noted, and say,
17 I will not allow this to happen again.

18 And I hope that something we say or do will
19 impress them to that point.

20 Now, it was Senator Hatch that offered us
21 some compensation, but that still is not good enough.

22 I want my daddy back. I can't have him.
23 But he wanted things to be good for all of us, and he
24 wanted it to be honest.

25 I can not honestly stand back and say that

1 I'm going to allow this to happen if I don't do
2 something, or say something, or be someplace.

3 Please. We need to stand up and be noted.
4 Have the courage to say what's wrong, and have the
5 courage to say, I will not allow it again, because it
6 did such desecration to the people.

7 My father died without any bones left in his
8 body. They disintegrated. And when he did die, he
9 expressed his love for his family.

10 I expressed my love to him, for the
11 honorable way in which he lived, for the honorable way
12 in which he died, and for the caution that he used that
13 no one else should get this disease again.

14 I hope he will give us the power to at least
15 get enough strength going, between all of us, that this
16 won't happen again.

17 I ask for the Lord's blessings on all of us.
18 Good night.

19 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

20 Trent Alvey, followed by Sydney Davey.

21 Sydney Davey?

22 Katy Savage.

23 MS. KATY SAVAGE: My name is Katy Savage.

24 And I'll keep these statements brief,
25 because I'm kind of a shy person. I'm not very

1 comfortable to be here right now, but I was motivated
2 to come because I'm from St. George, and my
3 grandparents were also downwinders, and I grew up
4 without them. They died young of cancer. And we
5 received compensation for that, which is a horrible,
6 horrible word, because that's no compensation.

7 So I grew up without any generation older
8 than my parents, as did many my age in St. George.

9 And so I just add that story of suffering to
10 the many that have been said here. There's so many
11 stories of suffering. And I think one thing we have
12 proven is that they're not forgotten. That they're
13 still very raw, and red, and bleeding still, and
14 painful.

15 The first thing I want to say is that I
16 love __ I love this land. I love Utah, and I love
17 Nevada. And there's something special about this
18 place. It's not a wasteland, it's not a place to dump
19 anything. It's not a place to explode things that will
20 damage this land, because this is a special place.

21 I guess basically I feel tonight that the
22 Department of Defense, and the Federal Government in
23 general, has something to prove to us. And it's not
24 the bunker_busting capacity of 700 tons of chemical
25 explosions. It needs to prove to us that U.S. citizens

1 have a right to live without fear of what their
2 government will do to them. That we, I think through
3 our suffering, that we've earned the right to be left
4 alone.

5 And if not that, then at least the
6 government needs to prove to us that this is still a
7 democracy. And that when people come together, like
8 they have tonight, and say absolutely not, then that
9 means something. And that's not something that can
10 just be ignored.

11 And perhaps this is being naive or being an
12 idealist, and I guess if it is, and democracy is no
13 longer viable, then I'll be arrested with Pete Ashdown
14 in the Nevada desert.

15 But for what it's worth, I'm opposed to this
16 test, and I thank you for this opportunity to say this.

17 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

18 Robert Radcliff? Followed by Robert
19 Volker.

20 Robert Volker?

21 MR. ROBERT VOLKER: Hello. My name is
22 Robert Volker.

23 Some amazing comments have been made this
24 evening about horrific experiences of downwind victims.
25 But I'd also like to turn our attention to a victory.

1 We won. We won a battle.

2 Many of us may have not been through the
3 experience of MX missile system. That was a maniacal
4 system of grand proportions that we did not tolerate.
5 And we fought it, tirelessly. Eventually, the Federal
6 Government conceded. Have we benefitted from that
7 program system being cancelled? Absolutely. Will we
8 benefit by cancelling this maniacal weapons system?
9 Absolutely.

10 We stopped MX, we can stop the Divine
11 Strake. Thank you.

12 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

13 Kerry Warner, followed by Michael Crawley.
14 Cowley. I'm sorry.

15 MS. KERRI WARNER: I'm Kerri Warner. It's
16 K_E_R_R_I, W_A_R_N_E_R.

17 I didn't plan to talk tonight, but I sat and
18 listened to everybody and it got me all worked up, so I
19 jotted down some notes on this little pink thing.

20 First of all I want to thank, not just
21 Governor Huntsman, but whoever is responsible for
22 making this thing possible. This is really cool, and I
23 want to fight this thing all the way.

24 I have a one_year_old daughter, and I'm here
25 as mama bear.

1 I'm getting worked up. This is crazy.

2 I watched my grandparents die, and most of
3 their brothers and sisters, all of cancer. And it was
4 completely unnecessary. My daughter will never know
5 them. And that's really sad to me.

6 My whole life, as a little kid, I lived in
7 fear of the government and of nuclear weapons, and I
8 don't want her to feel that way.

9 I love this state, an awful lot, and I love
10 Mother Earth, and I love being here.

11 We love to go camping. Every time I go
12 camping I wonder, am I camping on top of uranium
13 tailings? Should I have a Geiger counter? And I have
14 a whole new reason to buy a Geiger counter. That's
15 crazy.

16 I love gardening, and I don't want to be
17 afraid to grow things in my back yard, and I don't want
18 to be afraid to put that in my food that I feed to my
19 daughter. I want her to have healthy, nutritious food,
20 and I'm afraid to grow it. I don't want to be afraid
21 to eat. I don't want to be afraid to drink my water.
22 I don't want to be afraid to breathe. And, you know,
23 we shouldn't have to be afraid to breathe.

24 This whole entire thing makes no sense at
25 all to me. All I can figure is they just want to get

1 their foot in the door for more nuclear testing, and
2 that's completely asinine.

3 You can't tell me that in 2007 we don't have
4 the computer technology to test computer models of what
5 this explosion might do. They're doing computer models
6 of the environmental impact? What about just the
7 explosion itself?

8 It's supposed to be the same stuff that was
9 in the Oklahoma City bombing. So we know what that
10 did. Can't we just multiply it? And I'm sure they're
11 going to come up with an excuse, like, Oh, well, we
12 need to try a different ground composition, or what if
13 it was different bedrock? And they'll just keep doing
14 it over and over. Can't we just do this on the
15 computer? I would think they could probably come up
16 with more scenarios that way than they could ever do
17 just blowing it up in the desert. That's just silly.

18 And if worse comes to worse, and they come
19 up with a real good reason they have to do a physical
20 test, why can't they pick another place? Don't we
21 have some other place in this whole entire country
22 that's not radioactive where we can blow this thing up?
23 That's just silly. It's completely unacceptable. It's
24 a monumentally stupid thing to do, and it totally
25 frightens me that they're even thinking about it.

1 I was sitting here listening to everybody
2 and thinking, We should just redraw the borderlines of
3 the state of Utah into the shape of a giant guinea pig,
4 because that's kind of what we all feel like.

5 It's bad enough to make war on another
6 country for some unclear reason, and I just wonder, do
7 we have to make war on our own people for another
8 unclear reason?

9 I don't understand why I'm expected to
10 support a Federal Government that keeps trying to kill
11 my family. That doesn't make sense to me. Sooner or
12 later my baby is going to grow up, I hope, if she
13 doesn't catch leukemia, or her bones don't rot, or
14 something scary, and she's going to ask me one day,
15 Mama, can I trust the government? And what am I
16 supposed to say to her? I would like to tell her yes,
17 because that's why my ancestors came here. We're
18 supposed to be able to have a government where we can
19 tell our voice and it makes a difference. And I just
20 think it would be a shame to have to tell her
21 otherwise.

22 Thanks.

23 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

24 After Michael, Naomi Franklin.

25 MR. MICHAEL COWLEY: It's Michael Cowley,

1 C_O_W_L_E_Y. Representing myself.

2 I got to talk with the project director and
3 the chief energetics engineer ___ isn't that an
4 interesting name for a guy that blows things up? ___ at
5 the Defense Threat Reduction Agency meeting and the
6 Department of Defense meeting over at the Grand
7 America.

8 And as we were discussing the size of this
9 explosion, it became very clear, in their answers to
10 us, there not only are no conventional weapons even on
11 the drawing board that could reach this yield, but that
12 obviously no conventional weapon of this size could
13 ever be deployed.

14 So as we went farther into the discussion,
15 it became very evident, in fact they admitted directly,
16 that they will be sharing this information with the
17 planners that would be able to use this information,
18 where the Defense Department could decide what size
19 nuclear weapon to dial in to blow up or to create the
20 kind of damage they need to collapse a tunnel 150 ___ I
21 mean 100 feet down.

22 In fact, at the end of the evening, as we
23 discussed it with the other people that were asking the
24 questions, it became very clear that that was the main
25 reason for doing this test.

1 But something good came out of this.
2 Luckily, in America, we have a policy where, you know,
3 they did an Environmental Assessment, but the public
4 can demand an Environmental Impact Statement. And I
5 hope that that is something that everyone here will do.

6 An Environmental Impact Statement finally
7 gives the public a chance to decide what options have
8 to be reviewed in the report. It can be up to us to
9 say that they really need to discuss the whole concept
10 of using a nuclear weapon, a first_strike weapon, or to
11 develop different kinds of nuclear weapons, or to
12 develop nuclear weapons at all. But we have to demand
13 it. If people don't request it, it won't happen.

14 Now, remember, even the testimony that is
15 being given here tonight, is only going to be sent to
16 people for their consideration. There is nothing
17 binding here. There is nothing inherent in what we're
18 doing tonight that can affect policy. There just have
19 to be enough people demanding it of their public
20 officials so that something will happen.

21 Remember recently, another victory that
22 happened was the stopping of the __ sending the spent
23 fuel rods to the Goshute Indian Reservation. PFS.
24 What really helped that was at the end of that, 5,000
25 people sent in comments that were requested, and it

1 made a difference.

2 So please, don't just leave here after
3 having given your testimony. Call your Congressman.
4 Call the appropriate people. Support the Governor in
5 this __ in his push to stop this.

6 But demand an Environmental Impact
7 Statement. Even if it is just to delay this until the
8 Bush administration is no more.

9 But other things that we need to also demand
10 for is, and you can demand this as well, but get
11 specific. Demand that they revoke the funding for this
12 test. Stop it economically. Ask that __

13 It's sad when you can't read your own
14 writing.

15 But the big concern that I, of course, have
16 had with this, is that this is the first administration
17 in America's history that has decided that it is okay
18 to use a nuclear weapon as a first strike.

19 We can determine that if bin Laden is under
20 some hill somewhere, or if Iran is getting too close
21 with a nuclear weapons program, that if they've buried
22 it under the ground, that we have the right to blow it
23 up on their sovereign territory, affecting other
24 countries.

25 I think this is immoral, it is unjustified,

1 and it is something that, unless the people stand up
2 and demand a review of the nuclear weapons program in
3 America, is just something that could happen.

4 And so please, I'm so gratified by hearing
5 everyone and their testimony that has happened here.
6 I'm very thankful for the Governor for allowing this
7 meeting, and thank you, Diane Nielson, for being the
8 facilitator for this.

9 But it doesn't stop here tonight. It's only
10 the beginning. Please keep involved with this. Get
11 arrested. Make your comments. Do whatever we need to
12 do to stop this.

13 Thanks.

14 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

15 Naomi Franklin, followed by Jeanette Copyak.

16 MS. NAOMI FRANKLIN: Thank you for the
17 hearings.

18 One of the things about Divine Strake,
19 whether it's in preparation for tests of nuclear bunker
20 busters, or whether it's in preparation for testing of
21 new nuclear bombs, I find it to be totally
22 counter_productive.

23 In the first place, it is out of tune with
24 our world problems. We cannot blast our way to world
25 cooperation, and bunker busters cannot be used against

1 zealots who are wrapped in explosives.

2 I'm opposed to further development of
3 nuclear weapons altogether. They are a world menace,
4 and they must now be eliminated.

5 Our nation and hundreds of others are
6 committed, by law, to non_proliferation of nuclear
7 weapons, and we should ratify the Comprehensive Test
8 Ban Treaty.

9 It is absurd to speak of a small yield
10 nuclear bomb.

11 Finally, I refer you to a letter that was
12 published in the Wall Street Journal on January 4th,
13 written by some of our great statesmen who are now
14 retired; George Schultz, William Perry, Henry
15 Kissinger, Sam Nunn, and a bunch of others. And these
16 statesmen, they may not have had the wisdom to oppose
17 nuclear weapons in their younger days, but now they
18 have come to see that it is not a good thing. And they
19 say, Nuclear weapons today present tremendous dangers,
20 but also an historic opportunity. U.S. leadership will
21 be required to take the world to the next stage, to a
22 solid consensus for reversing reliance on nuclear
23 weapons globally, as a vital contribution to preventing
24 their proliferation into potentially dangerous hands,
25 and ultimately ending them as a threat to the world.

1 The goal we must have now is to make a world
2 free of nuclear weapons.

3 Thank you.

4 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

5 Jeanette Copyak? Followed by Lorry Horman.

6 MS. JEANETTE COPYAK: Okay. See, I'm not
7 much of a public speaker either, but some of my things
8 that I have written down here are just kind of
9 questions. Like, I read somewhere on the internet that
10 it said that there was some kind of an isotope that was
11 going along with the ride. And when I asked what kind
12 of an isotope this was, they said that they didn't want
13 to disclose it because __ they said for security
14 reasons for national defense. So right there I was
15 terrified.

16 And then I'm wondering, you know, again, why
17 was the Pentagon able to override the soils test, which
18 would have taken years for them to study? So just
19 with one stroke of the pen, they just write that off,
20 and say that's fine.

21 Then I'm wondering other questions, like
22 Indiana and New Mexico. They were kind of considered.
23 They thought, well maybe we won't do it in Nevada.
24 Maybe we'll consider some other states.

25 And so for some reason, they were able to

1 nip it in the bud really fast, and just __ I think they
2 screamed so loud and everything that they just decided,
3 Nope, Indiana's not a good place to do it. So we need
4 to get a little bit loud, I guess.

5 And another thing is, I was reading about
6 it, that said, in 1998, that tests were done to show
7 that still from 1955, that the bad stuff is still in
8 our atmosphere and our soils today. So another concern
9 I had.

10 Another thing. I used to be a real estate
11 broker, and I know that it just economically kills your
12 state to have things like that. Your market values
13 drop and everything. So another reason people aren't
14 going to want to be moving here and so forth. That
15 will hurt us.

16 And another __ just another thing, sort of
17 off the record, but I'm kind of wondering, why does the
18 government keep hurting our families? We live across
19 from Hill Air Force Base. And I'm wondering. They
20 pollute four times as much as the next number one
21 person does. They just simply pay the fines. But it's
22 just like it's okay to keep polluting, and keep having,
23 you know, this stuff come out and hurt us. So a
24 question.

25 That's it. Thank you.

1 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

2 Lorry Horman, followed by Monica Dixon.

3 MR. LORRY HORMAN: Thank you.

4 I'm the British Horman and the German
5 Horman. This was a letter to the editor. He didn't
6 need it. Let me try it on you.

7 Divine Strake? How about divine absurdity?
8 What can be divine about a 700_ton explosion? The
9 idea smacks of madmen playing with big matches, who, in
10 their fantasy, imagine this big bang will assist the
11 military to fine_tune its ability to understand
12 explosions.

13 The military has blown up about half the
14 world, and don't need a post_graduate detonation to
15 figure out how it works.

16 On the other hand, if the divinity they
17 serve is Mars, the Roman god of war, there can never be
18 too much research, so blast away.

19 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you. Monica
20 Dixon, followed by Aralee Scothern.

21 MS. MONICA DIXON: My name is Monica Dixon.
22 And I am opposed to Divine Strake for many reasons, but
23 only two of which I'll speak about.

24 Number one, I believe that we should be
25 using our resources, and our science, and our

1 technologies to fund and explore options for peace
2 rather than more options for war.

3 I don't think we should explode this Divine
4 Strake anywhere, any time, because I am against it on
5 every level.

6 And number two, this has already been said
7 in a number of different ways, but I will say it again.
8 It doesn't make any sense for them to be figuring out
9 how to explode the bunkers of the people that they say
10 are our enemies, from whom they're trying to protect
11 us, by doing something that would endanger and
12 eventually kill us. That doesn't make any sense at
13 all. Which calls into question their motivation for
14 doing this in the first place.

15 Is it really to protect us? Or is it to
16 help the rich continue to get richer, and perpetuate
17 this unspeakably horrific war that we're in?

18 So thank you all for coming and saying what
19 you have said tonight. This has been beautiful. Thank
20 you.

21 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Aralee Scothern,
22 followed by David Shorten.

23 MS. ARALEE SCOTHERN: Hi. My name is Aralee
24 Scothern. And I would just like to say, I was really
25 disappointed when I drove up here tonight, like one

1 lady said before. I was expecting thousands to be
2 here. Do people not care if they get cancer? If they
3 live? I mean, I don't understand that. I wonder why
4 we're __ some people are being so apathetic, or
5 whatever the word is.

6 And I just had an interesting experience
7 happen to me one year. I'm a former school teacher.
8 And I had a boy who was in the 8th grade who had a
9 really hard time with school. He was one of those __
10 we would probably have named him a juvenile delinquent.
11 And I remember when he came into my class, he was a
12 test of tests.

13 And one time I decided to put a play on
14 after school, and he __ I gave him a part in the play.
15 And sometimes I almost had to kind of close my eyes to
16 make him successful, or whatever. But I did my very
17 best to try to make him successful.

18 And the very last day of school, he came in
19 and he brought me this poster, which I think summed
20 this whole thing up really, really good. And on the
21 poster __ it was a poster __ it was a quotation from
22 Albert Einstein, and it said that Peace cannot be kept
23 by force, but only by understanding. Now, if an 8th
24 grade student can figure out that peace cannot be kept
25 by force, but only by understanding, why can't we, as

1 citizens of the United States of America, figure that
2 out too?

3 I say let's put more money and energy and
4 time into peace and understanding, and less time and
5 money and everything into building explosives, and war,
6 and things like Divine Strake.

7 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

8 David Shorten.

9 MR. DAVID SHORTEN: Are you the hearing
10 officer?

11 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Yeah. I am.

12 MR. DAVID SHORTEN: My name is David
13 Shorten. I live in the Third Congressional District.
14 I'll be brief.

15 In a democracy, we allow dissenting opinion
16 to take stage.

17 There was a poster, and I can not quote it
18 directly, but it says that we live in peace because
19 rough men are willing to do violence in our behalf.

20 I believe it to be true.

21 I support Divine Strake. It is a stalking
22 horse for a tactical nuclear weapon. That's why they
23 talk about 750_tons, because it's about 750_kilo tons
24 are going to take to root out some type of commander
25 control bunker.

1 I want one of those things to work if,
2 heaven forbid, we have to use them. I will not risk
3 the lives of air crew, ground crew, and other people in
4 the military for a weapon that may or may not work.
5 They get very upset when you have to go back a second
6 time and take out a target.

7 I have appreciated the feelings that have
8 been expressed. I'm sorry I wasn't here at 5 o'clock.
9 I had a previous engagement that I had to sit on a
10 board.

11 But while I appreciate your feelings, and
12 your emotions, mine are just as strong. Someone said
13 that they __ we should write. Rest assured, I do write
14 my congressional people. I contribute monies, such as
15 I have, to the causes that I believe in.

16 There is a mean, nasty world out there. We
17 live in one of the few places on this planet where we
18 can get up in a meeting and speak our minds, and not be
19 shot or otherwise taken to task for that. For that, I
20 am grateful. It does not come without a price. I do
21 not support the use of nuclear weapons except in
22 preservation of this society, which has so much to
23 offer for the world.

24 If other societies are so damn good, why
25 don't they offer what this country and the

1 English_speaking world has offered over the past
2 100 years?

3 Thank you.

4 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

5 That's the end of the list of individuals
6 who signed up. There were a few people __

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I put my name on the
8 list.

9 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Fine.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It should be on
11 there. I'd be curious to see that list.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You went out. You
13 went out when she called.

14 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Perhaps I called your
15 name and you weren't here. And I'd be happy to give
16 you time now, if you'd like.

17 MR. KEVIN DONAHUE, M.D.: I brought a couple
18 of items with me. As well, I have a camera on.

19 I think it's a good idea to document these
20 meetings, because these are very important meetings.

21 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Could you state your
22 name? So that we get that on the record also?

23 MR. KEVIN DONAHUE, M.D.: My name is
24 Dr. Kevin Donahue. D_O_N_A_H_U_E.

25 First of all, I'd like to say thank you all

1 for coming. And I am a really fortunate man to be a
2 part of a community who cares so much to show up and
3 participate in this important issue.

4 I'm mostly here to listen, but, as a lot of
5 you know, I can't help but talking sometimes.

6 I'd like to thank Governor Huntsman, our
7 beautiful and cohesive community. I'd also like to
8 thank the downwind deceased and the survivors.

9 In addition, I'd like to thank a document
10 that's very important, called the Bill of Rights. I'll
11 get back to that in just a minute.

12 I think it's very interesting what happened
13 on January 10th, 2007, United States ___ at the United
14 States government meeting involving the Department of
15 Defense, as well as the Department of Energy, and the
16 agency which is known as the Defense Threat Reduction
17 Agency.

18 They wanted us to leave the Constitution at
19 the door. We did not.

20 It's a very important point.

21 The most reliable information comes from the
22 source. These are the people who are the experts and
23 represent the truth.

24 It's important that the source be considered
25 mostly in the decision not to make this test happen.

1 My father was a World War II vet in Africa.
2 Northern Africa. He went up the bootleg of Italy as we
3 began to gain a stronghold on Europe. He returned back
4 stateside to train troops. He was the drill __ a drill
5 sergeant.

6 People ask me if I've ever been in the
7 military, and I tell them for the first five years of
8 my life.

9 In addition, actually I served with the
10 National Health Service Corps for three years. Served
11 in an underserved area in northern Arizona. For those
12 of you that don't know it, it's actually the sixth
13 branch of the Armed Services. I was a non_commissioned
14 medical officer.

15 I also have a career in research. I
16 volunteered time as a high school student doing cancer
17 research. I did cancer research in undergraduate and
18 after medical school in Houston, Texas.

19 I came up to Salt Lake City to train at the
20 University of Utah, and a residency training program
21 for psychiatry.

22 Afterwards, upon completion of my training
23 program, I worked at the veteran's hospital. I served
24 the veterans for approximately five years total.

25 As I mentioned earlier, I worked for the

1 National Health Service Corps for three years, and
2 after that I worked for a Native American tribe for
3 three years.

4 Upon returning to Salt Lake in 2003, I
5 worked at the Utah State Hospital, also at the county
6 jail.

7 I'm actually a community physician, and
8 you're my community.

9 And when I went to speak that night, to get
10 your opinion, I think it's important, at a United
11 States government meeting, that we be able to talk.
12 Especially on a health_related issue.

13 I brought this document with me tonight.
14 This is the Bill of Rights. And after that night I
15 decided to go ahead and carry this around with me
16 wherever I go. It's a little cumbersome. You can't
17 quite find a pocket for it that it would fit in. But
18 nonetheless, it's important, and I encourage you to
19 have that present, and understand it's meaning and
20 value.

21 I attended a showing last night as well __ a
22 screening, should I say, of White Light Black Rain, by
23 Stephen Okazaki. Very interesting film.

24 There was actually a survivor who spoke at
25 the question and answer session afterwards. She spoke

1 of the horrors of war. And it was quite terrible.

2 One thing my father used to say to me as a
3 child, and as an adolescent, was, if there's ever
4 another war, I'd like to be able to go for you kids,
5 because it is horrible.

6 Having heard it from my father, and having
7 heard it from a survivor from the bombs in Japan, I
8 take that to heart.

9 Again, having come to Utah in 1990, towards
10 the end of my residency training program, I picked up a
11 book that's __ this book. I thought it was an
12 interesting topic to read. It's called American Ground
13 Zero, The Secret Nuclear War. It tells a pretty good
14 story. It's very important, I think, that people know
15 the story.

16 It's kind of interesting. I find that we
17 keep returning to these issues, or these issues return
18 to us. That was in 1993 when I picked that book up,
19 and here I am again revisiting this issue.

20 I think we revisit these issues for a
21 purpose.

22 Lastly, I'd like to say again, I really
23 appreciate you as my community, and I'd rather be no
24 other place.

25 I'll finish with the words that I stated

1 when I left the room, and that is, The power is in the
2 people, and to keep thinking free.

3 Thank you.

4 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

5 Is there anyone else?

6 Sir, did you want to speak?

7 MR. BILL LEE: Just very quickly. I think
8 one thing that's been left out this evening, that was,
9 I believe made clear at the, quote, public meetings
10 with the government. And that is, that when the
11 question arises, Why do it here, where there's nuclear
12 waste? The biggest answer, for at least some
13 locations, is just money. That's the only reason they
14 don't do it somewhere else, is because it's going to
15 cost more. That's all.

16 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Okay.

17 Did you want to provide your name for the
18 record?

19 Thank you.

20 MR. BILL LEE: Bill Lee.

21 MS. DIANNE NIELSON: Thank you.

22 Is there anyone else?

23 I'd like to thank you all for being here
24 tonight.

25 This was important. An opportunity to be

1 able to take your comments, and provide them. And
2 thank you for taking the time, and having the interest
3 to be here.

4 (Whereupon, the hearing
5 was concluded at 8:36 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF UTAH)
2) ss
3 COUNTY OF SALT LAKE)

4 THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing
5 proceeding was taken before me, DEBRA A. DIBBLE, a
6 Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public in and
7 for the State of Utah, residing at Woodland, Utah.

8 That the testimony of said proceeding was
9 reported by me in Stenotype, and thereafter caused by
10 me to be transcribed into typewriting, and that a full,
11 true and correct transcription of said testimony so
12 taken and transcribed is set forth in the foregoing
13 annexed transcript.

14

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16

Debra A. Dibble, C.S.R., R.P.R.

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